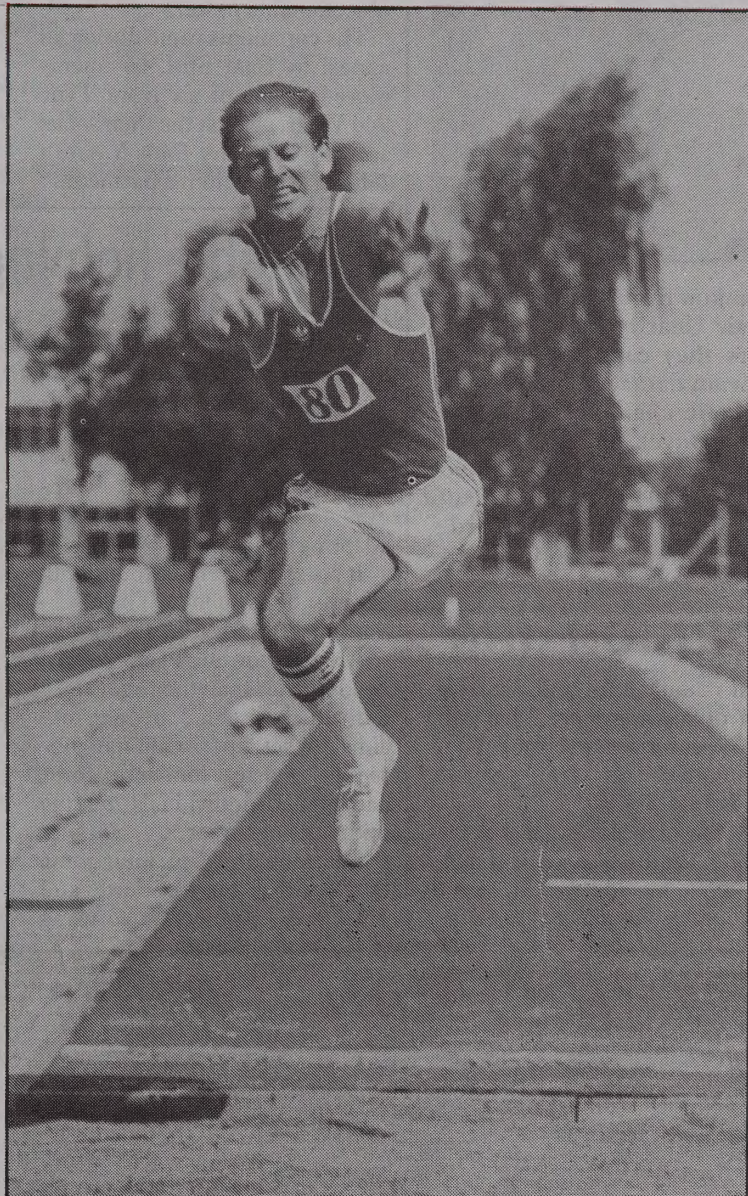


Disability Now

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Pentathlon world record breaker Tony Willis in action at the BASA National Games. See report page 13.

GRAHAM BOOL

Community care plans shelved

Community care plans for six million elderly and disabled people are being postponed until 1993 to save £15 on the poll tax. Criticism has surfaced from all sides.

The plans, due to come in next April, will now be phased in over three years.

Health Secretary Kenneth Clarke put the blame for the delay on high spending local authorities. He told MPs last month: "It has become overwhelmingly clear that many local authorities are not managing their services and their spending so that they can deliver good quality services effectively within reasonable spending limits."

Local authorities had already imposed "excessive levels" of poll tax on residents. To raise charges further to pay for community care would impose "an unacceptable burden on taxpayers", said Mr Clarke.

Earlier in the month local authorities had warned the Government that they would need an

extra £500m from the Treasury to put community care into action. If this was refused the plans would have to be paid for by adding £15 to the poll tax.

The Treasury refused to grant any extra help for community care when it put forward its £2bn package to ease the poll tax in June.

Under the arrangements, stage one, to begin next April, will include giving grants of £21m to local authorities to care for mentally ill people and £2m to voluntary bodies helping drug and alcohol abusers.

But it will be 1993 before local authorities can buy care for people in residential homes or give them enough support to stay in the community.

The decision to delay has
Continued on page 3

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Victory for Simon

Thousands of disabled adults living with their families could gain up to £28.20 a week severe disability premium (SDP) following a test case victory over the Department of Social Security in June.

But the DSS has said the ruling only applies to claims made before last October when it clarified the rules.

To qualify for SDP you must be on income support, get attendance allowance, and live alone or "jointly occupy" a home.

Simon Crompton, 24, from Tameside, Greater Manchester, has Down's Syndrome and lives with his retired parents. In 1988 he was refused SDP because the DSS said he did not "jointly occupy" the property.

The DSS insisted that "joint occupation" implied paying rent or sharing the mortgage.

Continued on page 3

Peto breakthrough

Under a new agreement between The Spastics Society and the Peto International Foundation in Budapest, twelve people will fly to Hungary next month to train as conductors for children with cerebral palsy. They should be working in Britain by 1994.

The Society's chairman, Douglas Shapland commented: "It is immensely satisfying to me and all members of the Executive Council that, after a long period of negotiations, we have finally reached an agreement with the Peto International Foundation."

"The fact that it has been achieved with the full approval of our Minister for Social Security and Disabled People, Nicholas Scott, is further recognition of the quality of the education already being provided by the staff in our schools."

"The Society's aim has always been to ensure that, in the long term Conductive Education becomes an integral part of special education available to children throughout Britain. This agree-



Agreed: Mrs Andrea Deak and Douglas Shapland

ment is a major step towards that goal."

The Society is looking mainly for trainees in their late teens and early 20s. It will pay their living costs, fund trips back to Britain and give them an annual grant of £8,000. They will also learn Hungarian.

The four year course is expected to lead to a degree with qualified teacher status. The Society will then offer the new conductors contracts and fund them for a further Masters degree in special education.

Continued on page 3

Labour to increase student levels

"Current provision for students with disabilities is variable, incomplete and in need of substantial improvement."

So said Mr Andrew Smith, Labour's higher education spokesman, at the launch of a plan to increase the number of disabled students last month.

A new survey by the Labour party showed that 83 per cent of colleges felt they did not have sufficient resources to provide adequately for the 0.3 per cent of students with disabilities.

Labour would help colleges develop special programmes to encourage disabled students, monitor their progress and ensure their needs are met.

According to the party's consultative document, costs would be met by re-allocating existing funds. Any additional expenditure "would be subject to available resources, and kept strictly within predetermined budget limits."

Michele Thew of the National Bureau of Students with Disabilities (SKILL) said: "What we need now is a study which looks at the actual cost of higher education for disabled students."

Opportunities for students with disabilities, tel: 071 219 5102.



OK for now. Seventeen year old Kwankou from Sidcup in Kent is the boy behind the OK Wheelchair Charity Fund, a group which buys children the wheelchairs they cannot get on the NHS. Kwankou was born blind and brain damaged. After being told he couldn't have the Ortho-Kinetic chair he needed his mum and dad, Mr and Mrs Woolley (above), bought it themselves and set up the OK fund. It has taken seven years of boot fairs and fetes to raise over £60,000 and get 104 chairs. Kwankou has been nominated for the 1990 London Electricity Board's Brightening-Up London award. Winners announced in October.

Third World revolution due

Over 75 experts from 20 countries including Britain have promised to try to "revolutionise" the lives of deaf people in the Third World.

At a European Initiative on Hearing Impairment Conference at the end of June delegates said they would encourage the

local manufacture and distribution of hearing aids. They will also pressurise governments to do more about deaf people's needs.

"This plan of action can revolutionise the lives of deaf people all over the world," said Labour MP Jack Ashley.

Minister's Fund power is ruled "unprecedented"

The Court of Appeal has strongly criticised the social security secretary's "unprecedented and unsupervised power" to decide who gets Social Fund payments.

Lord Justice Purchas said last month that Parliament had given the minister "wholly exceptional and, it might be thought by some, objectionable powers".

His comments came during an appeal by Sam Stitt, an unemployed father of six from Tyne and Wear, against the then social security secretary John Moore's refusal to grant him a payment.

Mr Stitt, whose case was backed by the Child Poverty Action Group, wanted the payment to allow his wife to look after their children and let him return to an employment training scheme.

The social security secretary's lawyer could not find a previous law which gave similar powers to the minister. However, he said, there had to be "a first time for everything".

The court rejected Mr Stitt's appeal, ruling that the minister was acting within his rights under the 1986 Social Security Act.

Workable helping job seekers

Disabled people may have a better chance of finding jobs thanks to a new organisation which offers companies advice on employing them.

Workable, set up in June, gives large employers disability awareness training and advice about adapting facilities and jobs.

It also puts them in touch with organisations such as The Spastics Society and MENCAP.

It acts according to employers' needs rather than the requests of individual disabled people, but aims to set up a national job-search register for both companies and individuals by the middle of next year.

Six companies including the BBC, Trust House Forte and Marks & Spencer are using

Workable at the moment.

Workable charges employers, but will also look for grants from organisations such as the European Social Fund.

"We wanted to create a network of different organisations, unlike other schemes which rely on one or two," said project director Simon Newman.

"It's a very encouraging and professional initiative," said Nigel Ellis, employment policy officer at RADAR, which is working with Workable. He thought that a register matching skills to vacancies should be a priority.

Workable, PO Box 69, Bishops' Stortford, Herts CM22 7LG, tel: (0279) 70524.

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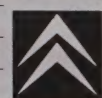
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allowance or their appointed representative. Written quotations on request. For more information write to: Citroën UK Ltd, 221 Bath Road, Slough SL1 4BA.

Disability groups are angry that the Government appears to have turned its back on anti-discrimination legislation and the quota system.

The long-awaited "consultative document", *Employment and training for people with disabilities*, "put up the positive points and then shot them down", said Michael Barrett, general secretary of the National League of the Blind and Disabled.

The Government argues that anti-discrimination legislation would be complex to draft, expensive to enforce and likely to make employers more reluctant about hiring disabled people.

The quota system, which requires employers with a workforce of more than 20 people to have at least 3 per cent of the employees registered disabled, is "inherently flawed", says the document. For example, given that only one per cent of the workforce is registered disabled, it is impossible for employers to meet the quota.

Anger at employment review

(Precisely *why* disabled people do not find a green card "applicable" to them was not revealed in the independent survey of disabled people in the labour market, which underpins many of the arguments of the document. The leading researcher, Patricia Prescott-Clarke, admits that in this case, as in others, the survey "begs as many questions as it answers.")

The Government is against enforcing the quota more strictly, fearing it would alienate employers and increase administrative costs – now running at £1.4m a year.

Instead it puts its faith in new technology, fewer school leavers entering the job market and a policy of persuasion and education to include a revised code of practice for smaller employers and a symbol, backed by guidelines, which employers could use

in job advertisements.

However, Voluntary Organisations for Anti-Discrimination Legislation, representing 30 disability groups including the Spinal Injuries Association, RNIB, RNID and The Spastics Society, argue that these measures are not enough.

"You have to have a stick and a carrot", says its chairman Stephen Bradshaw. "Legislation won't make people love each other, but at least it will enable us to sort out those companies that flout proper employment practices for disabled people. We've got to have that protection."

"Nor can we scrap the quota. We need it to set a standard of good practice, otherwise individuals would be landed with taking employers to court."

New research by The Spastics Society fuels the argument for legislation. When similar job ap-

plication letters were sent out in the London area, two out of every three from the person with cerebral palsy were treated in a discriminatory way. The situation had barely improved since similar research, four years ago.

However, Minister for Employment Lord Strathclyde said it would not change Government thinking. "I accept there is discrimination, but cerebral palsy is one kind of disability. It doesn't sound particularly nice. There's a job to do in raising the profile of different types of disability so they don't have this effect on employers."

Lord Strathclyde remains unconvinced of the need for legislation and questions whether it would work. But he denies emphatically that he has decided to scrap the quota.

Other plans in the document include:

- Transfer the Employment Rehabilitation Service to the Employment Service, examine management arrangements and provide a fully integrated approach to clients

- Work closely with Training and Enterprise Councils (TECs). There will be special funding for disabled people, said Lord Strathclyde

- Run down places in sheltered workshops and factories in favour of sheltered placements

- Abolish the Fit for Work Awards

- Offer more help to disabled people who want to be self-employed

Employment and Training for People with Disabilities, free from the Department of Employment. Consultation ends 31 December.

An Equal Chance? Or No Chance? £2.50 from The Spastics Society's Campaigns and Parliamentary Department, address p 24. Examples of discrimination in employment should be sent to them.



Mike Kender, 26, under arrest at a traffic-stopping demo in London last month, organised by the Campaign for Accessible Transport. He and three others were released by police minutes later.

Victory for Simon

Continued from page 1

Mr Crompton's case, and that of another claimant who wishes to remain anonymous, was taken up by the Child Poverty Action Group (CPAG) and Tameside borough council. They argued that merely "sharing" the parental home constituted joint occupation.

On 22 June the social security commissioner ruled in their favour.

The CPAG claimed that 30,000 other people could now benefit, at a cost to the Government of £40m a year.

Vicki Chapman, CPAG's solicitor, said: "As a result of the DSS misinterpreting the rules thousands of claimants have lost out. The Department must ensure that all those people are traced and paid the money owed to them."

But the DSS insist that only claims made *before* last October's clarification of the rules are valid.

The CPAG argue that claims

after this date are also valid because the legal meaning of "jointly occupies" is still unclear.

More legal action may follow on this point.

Mr Crompton is still waiting to be paid £2,000 in arrears. His case has to go back to a local social security tribunal before any payment can be made and this could take months. Mrs Joan Crompton said: "There is no 'victory' until the arrears are paid."

Peto breakthrough

Continued from page 1

The whole programme will cost £1.25 million, underwritten by the Society, although "We anticipate that much of the money will come from fundraising," said chief executive Ken Young.

Robert Hancock, principal education advisor, said that as well as being an exciting opportunity, the terms were an incentive for the trainees to stay with

the Society after qualifying.

"They are training with us and working with us," he said. "It's a generous offer. Many of the students who go to Hungary may have chosen to give up university places."

"The response to our advertising has been phenomenal," said Phil Robson, who organises the recruitment. "We've had 400 calls in four days."

The course is very demanding, he said, but the International Institute wanted to recruit young people not qualified as teachers because they were easier to train.

Closing date for trainee applications is 6 August. Phil Robson, tel: (0443) 673775.

Correction. The Spastics Society's Ingfield Manor School does not provide "Peto-inspired Conductive Education programmes" (DN April). It provides programmes inspired by Peto. We apologise for any embarrassment caused by this error.

Community Care shelved

Continued from page 1

provoked anger and confusion among disability organisations, politicians, social services and local councils.

Sir Brian Rix, chairman of Mencap, said: "For less than the price of a cup of tea per week, community care is to be sold down the river."

Jill Pitkeathley, director of the Carers' National Association said six million carers felt angry and cheated.

Andrew Bowden, Tory MP for Brighton Kemptown, told Mr Clarke that carers were "slowly killing themselves" for want of a break: "If you don't give these people help quite quickly, a lot of them will collapse and that will cost the state even more."

Jack Ashley, Labour MP for Stoke-on-Trent, told MPs:

"Disabled people have become the sacrificial victims of the poll tax."

Local councils and social services have refused to be blamed for the delay. The Conservative-controlled Association of County Councils called Mr Clarke's excuses "beyond belief."

The Labour-controlled Association of Metropolitan Authorities called it "a quick fix for the poll tax at the expense of the elderly."

John Rea Price, president of the Association of Directors of Social Services (ADSS) was particularly angry at the suggestion that social services would not have been ready in time. In a survey carried out by the ADSS, 95 out of 96 social services directors declared they were ready to go ahead next April and that they had started work on schemes.

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IN PARLIAMENT

HOUSE OF COMMONS

Opportunities for disabled people

Disabled people came to the undivided attention of the House of Commons on 29 June with John Bowis' (Con) private member's motion on the need to promote "opportunities for the disabled."

Mr Bowis told the House: "My motion seeks to look at the whole person, the whole opportunity, all the obstacles that need to be removed and all the support that needs to be given to enable people to live life to the full and to contribute to our society."



John Bowis: motion moved

He pointed out the difficulties disabled people face gaining opportunities, access and jobs and how these can be overcome.

This led to a lively debate.

Alf Morris (Lab) congratulated Mr Bowis for giving the House a chance to discuss the wider issues of disability. But he criticised the Government for denying the House a chance to debate its review of employment services for disabled people.

Quotes of the month

"I am extremely glad that at last we have managed to get away from the condescending term, 'the disabled' ... We want to underline the crucial fact that people with disabilities are first and foremost people and individuals, who happen to suffer from a disability." Nicholas Scott, Minister for Social Security and Disabled People on his job title change.

"Underground stations now have the notorious mechanical Rottweilers, otherwise known as ticket barriers. Their introduction was ludicrous because they are a danger to people with disabilities, people pushing prams or pushchairs, people carrying heavy shopping and those who have difficulty in walking. People get trapped by them every day." Jeremy Corbyn (Lab).

"I sometimes have the feeling that, if the Lords were to dare even to amend factual or spelling errors in their legislation, social security ministers would be made to move, 'That this House doth disagree with the Lords in the said amendment'." Alfred Morris (Lab).

"Where I see a bottleneck, I see people being impeded from getting out. Where the Government see a bottleneck they see ravening hordes craving for benefits, struggling to get in. The Government therefore try to make the bottleneck narrower and narrower - I try to make it wider and wider." Earl Russell (Lib Dem).

House points

● On 27 June the Lords' amendment on ringfencing community care funds was overturned in the Commons. Only cash for drug and alcohol dependency schemes will be ringfenced.

● NHS and Community Care Bill became law on 29 June. Community care plans face delay following announcement by Sir Geoffrey Howe that implementation "must depend on the scale of the resources available."

● Baroness Seear (Lib Dem) tried to have the value of a person's home disregarded when they are being assessed for income-related benefits if they are living in residential care but their former carer

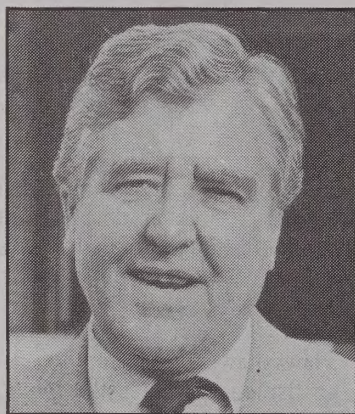
still occupies the home. Move defeated but Government will monitor situation.

● Lord Carter's (Lab) amendment to uprate severe disability allowance (£28.20) to basic level of invalidity benefit (£46.90) was defeated because Government said it would cost too much.

● Deaf students getting disabled students allowance can still claim income support and housing benefit following the Government's partial acceptance of a Lords' amendment. Moves to protect students with dyslexia or learning difficulties were unsuccessful.

● Social Security Bill became law on 13 July.

According to Mr Morris, the Government had announced its review via a written Parliamentary answer and a press conference to avoid a debate on the subject.



Alf Morris: debate denied

He also criticised the Government for delaying the implementation of sections 1,2 and 3 of the Disabled Persons Act 1986.

In reply, Nicholas Scott said that local authorities were being consulted about implementing these sections.

Mr Morris continued: "None of us, on either side of the House, thought that there would be a delay of four years in implementing crucial provisions of the Act."

He called for Britain to have anti-discrimination legislation along the lines of the Americans with Disabilities Act 1990 (DN July).

Eddie Loyden (Lab) reminded the House of the problems disabled people face getting information. Mr Loyden had tried to improve this with his one-clause Local Government (Access to Information) (Disabled Persons) Bill.

Mr Morris said many disabled people welcomed Mr Loyden's bill and reminded the Minister that it could still be enforced.

The Minister did not reply.

Pauline Rona Graham

IN BRIEF

Artist comes to Britain



Joni Eareckson Tada, the Christian singer, author and artist who is quadriplegic, is coming to Britain in August. For details of her tour contact Colin Reeves, tel: 0903 821082.

Implant centres chosen

The six hospitals where deaf people will be able to get cochlear ear implants (see DN March) are: University College Hospital in London, North Riding Infirmary in Middlesbrough, Manchester Royal Infirmary, South Hants Hospital in Southampton, Queen Elizabeth Hospital in Birmingham, and Nottingham General Hospital, which gives children the operation.

£25,000 is also going to the Queen Elizabeth Hospital for implants which use titanium screws to fix the aid in the ear.

Writing in residency

Hospice Arts, a charity started in June, is to set up three six-month writing residencies in late September at hospices in Hull, Rochdale and Oxford. The Arts Council has donated half the £20,000 cost. The charity advises hospices on encouraging creative arts, and is to have a training day for occupational therapists in September.

Hospice Arts, the Forbes Trust, 9 Artillery Lane, London E1 7LP, tel: 071-377 8484.

Free training on offer

Blind and visually impaired people can get free training in computers at a mobile unit which started touring the country last month. It will be at the Royal Society for the Blind in Bristol on 12-26 August, and the Royal London Society for the Blind in September.

Corrections

We apologise to the Garwood family and others for accidentally inserting the date of Ruth Garwood's recent death, and her age, after the name of Jean Garwood. Jean Garwood died in November 1971, aged 54.

Earl Russell is a Liberal Democrat and not an Independent, as stated in last month's Month in Parliament.

Apologies to those who dialled the wrong number for the Leonard Cheshire Foundation for copies of their report on special seating. Correct number is 071 828 1822.

Tim Shapley's comments in Letters on clamping orange badge holders applied to the Queen's highway only. British Rail is private property and is not bound by the same rules.

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FACE TO FACE YOU STAND MORE CHANCE!

Tourism is for everybody

Enthusiasm tinged with doubts about how it could be done greeted the Tourism for All campaign, launched in July by the Holiday Care Service, a charity which gives holiday information to people with special needs, and the English Tourist Board.

"Each of us has a diversity of needs, but these needs are only 'special' when the environment makes them so," said Mary Baker, chairman of the campaign.

"Tourism for All is about integration, not isolation; independence, not dependence. A service industry must focus on the quality of provision, and quality is good for business."

Some big companies have already taken this to heart.

Saga Group has helped with the publication of a new handbook, *Providing Accessible Accommodation*, which gives comprehensive design advice on how to improve accessibility for people with physical disabilities or sensory impairments, and the minimum requirements for obtaining the new accessible symbol.

Consort Hotels, which has 240

independent hotel members in the UK, were, along with the National Trust, the first to adopt the Model Policy Statement which commits them to making improvements in accessibility and developing staff training.

The accessible symbol shown below, only awarded after independent verification by the Holiday Care Service, is backed by the British Hotels, Restaurants and Caterers Association.



First winners were the London Tara Hotel, The Irvine Hospitality Inn in Ayrshire, the Gorslyd Farm in Dyfed (run by wheelchair user Bob Donaldson and his wife) and Trusthouse Forte Travelodges.

Welcoming the initiatives, Minister of Tourism Lord Strathclyde thought that with nearly 20 per cent of the popula-

tion estimated to be pensioners and 6.2 million disabled adults, "it is indeed good sense to take this growth market and its needs very seriously."

"Some parts of the industry could do more," he added.

John Stanford, RADAR's holiday guide editor, was worried about "the huge gaps at the bottom end of the market" as no money is available from regional tourist boards to help small hoteliers adapt their premises.

"A balance must be struck," he said. "We need provision for people with low incomes, including disabled people, and tie that in with better physical access and better design."

★ Travel insurer Home and Overseas has joined up with the Holiday Care Service to produce a competitively priced, comprehensive holiday insurance, which includes unlimited medical cover and provision for specialist equipment, eg a wheelchair.

For information about Tourism for All, or the insurance plan, tel: (0293) 774535.



Netley Waterside House in Southampton, a holiday centre for severely physically disabled people run by Refresh and the Winged Fellowship Trust, opened in June. Tel: (0703) 453686.



Sticky fingers: Richard Attenborough meets two sculptors at Leicester University's Centre for Disability and the Arts. LIONEL HEAP

Artists for art's sake

Britain's first national disability arts centre may soon be built following an appeal backed by film director and actor Sir Richard Attenborough.

Leicester University staff want £1.5 million to build a centre for disabled and able-bodied people. It will also allow research into disability arts and training for special needs teachers. Arts organisations from around the country will be able to use the centre.

Leicester county council is to donate the land and the university is to cover the centre's running costs.

Dr Alec Strachan, chair of the county council and a wheelchair user, said people who paint using parts of the body such as the mouth were likely to be included as well as visually impaired people.

"It is extraordinary that we are not taking advantage of these accentuated perceptions," said Richard Attenborough after meeting disabled artists at Leicester University's Centre for

Disability and the Arts, which teaches local disabled people two days a week but is used mainly by able-bodied people.

Elsie Whitehead, who is visually impaired and sculpts, presented him with a sculpture of an egg as a symbol of the centre's planned rebirth in the new building.

Most of the people drawing, painting and modelling in the building had never done so before they came to the centre.

Maureen Herricks, who is blind, prefers painting to sculpture. "I never thought that a blind person could paint," she said. "It is like a completely new world."

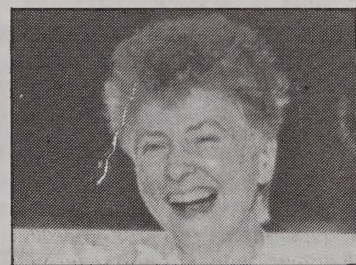
Sir Richard said he was more aware of disabled people's needs because he has tinnitus and is hearing impaired.

He told *DN* that the proposed centre will get some of the £5 million which the Government gave the film industry in May if it can contribute to the work of the British Film Institute, which he chairs. He added that the BFI is to subtitle classic films.

Honour for disability champions

The Queen's birthday honours in June included some well-known figures in the disability world. Among disabled people, Valerie Lang, a member of The Spastics Society's executive council, received an MBE. John Hawkshaw of Remploy and craftsman Ted Castle (*profile, page 16*) both got British Empire Medals.

Valerie Lang, 50, has cerebral palsy. She has worked as a libra-



Valerie Lang: MBE

rian and has helped to form the Society's policies on conductive

education and ageing in people with cp. She has also advised London Transport and British Rail on their policies towards disabled people.

Jimmy Savile, tv personality and chair of Stoke Mandeville Hospital's spinal injuries centre, was made a knight. Alan Johns, 59, director of the Commonwealth Society for the Blind, was given the Order of St Michael and St George.

Hammersmith & Fulham

OPEN DAY FOR ALL PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES

SKILLS FOR WORK TRAINING DAY

WEDNESDAY 26th SEPTEMBER 1990

10.00am – 4.30pm

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Kick start for Europe's MND trial

European trials to track down the cause of motor neurone disease (MND), the muscle wasting condition which kills three people every day in Britain, are to begin this autumn.

Motor neurones are nerve cells which control muscles in the brain and spinal cord. MND leads to their degeneration, causing weakness, muscle wasting,

and death. Most people with MND are over 40 and only live for three to five years after diagnosis.

No one knows the cause of MND. Some theories have tried to link it with viral infection, environmental poisons or genetic defects. But new research suggests that amino acids may play a role in its development.

Scientists know that an amino acid called glutamate responds to one nerve cell by activating another.

Glutamate is crucial to life, but too much of it can kill nerve cells, leading to degeneration of the

motor nerve system.

Normally, a substance called glutamate dehydrogenase maintains the correct level of glutamate. Doctors now think that



PATRICK BAGLEE

people with MND may have glutamate dehydrogenase deficiency.

The tests will try to prove this and see if it can be corrected by a

mixture of amino acids.

Seven hundred and sixty volunteers will be recruited over 14 months, and 40 research centres in seven countries will test patients' muscle strength every three months.

The Motor Neurone Disease Association said: "A global enterprise of this size is a first for MND research, but one which will hopefully herald other such initiatives towards a cure for this fatal disease."

Organised by the Academic Unit of Neuroscience at Charing Cross and Westminster medical school, the trial will run for 2

years and cost £750,000.

An amino acids manufacturer, Ajinomoto Co. Inc. of Tokyo, is paying most of the cost.

If you would like more information on being a volunteer please contact Jim Lewis, Motor Neurone Disease Association, PO Box 246, Northampton NN1 2PR.

Early test for Down's is extended

A test to diagnose Down's Syndrome in unborn babies more accurately than ever before is being extended.

The test has just become available on the NHS in Newham and Tower Hamlets district authorities. It has been available since February last year in City and Hackney authority as part of a pilot project.

The treatment will be extended to two more regions in the North-East Thames health authority if it is successful.

Doctors test the mother's white blood cells for NAP, the enzyme found in large amounts in Down's babies' blood. Women are given a "risk factor" of having a Down's child and can have further tests to confirm it.

It can detect about 65 per cent of Down's babies, compared to a third using amniocentesis, in which the fluid surrounding the baby is examined.

Phyllis Bowman, director of the Society for the Protection of the Unborn Child, said: "It is appalling promoting tests of that nature when there is so much we can do for Down's babies when they are born. We believe that the handicapped have as much right to life as anyone."

The Down's Syndrome Society said they welcomed any test which allowed mothers to prepare for having a Down's child. "We certainly do not see it as another reason for lessening the number of births."

Dead bones save hips

Hundreds of elderly people whose hip replacements fail due to the collapse of their own bones may be able to use bones from dead people instead.

Mrs Hilda Read, 73, of Essex, has had three hip replacements fail and was confined to a wheelchair. After having what is believed to be the first British bone graft from a dead donor she is trying to walk again.

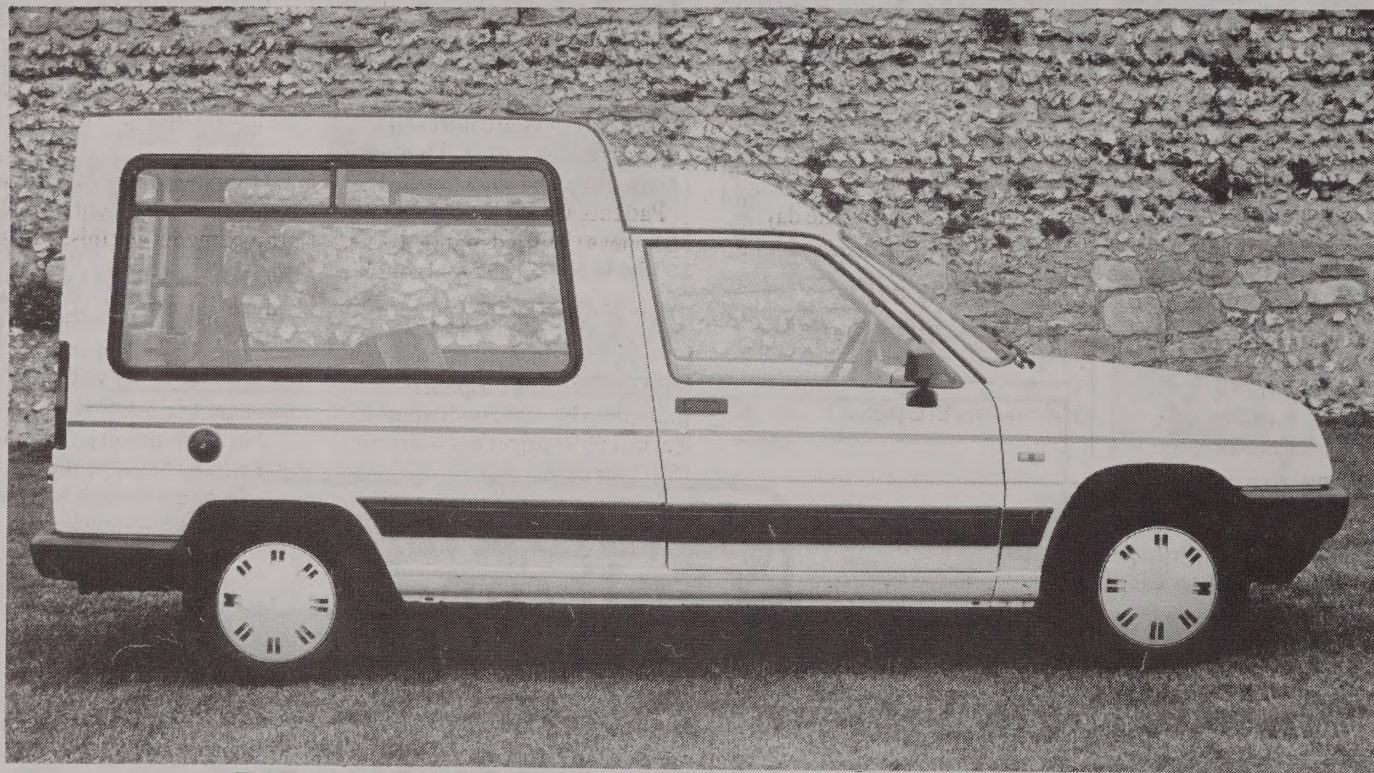
In a five hour operation, Richard Villar, consultant orthopaedic surgeon at Addenbrookes Hospital, Cambridge, gave Mrs Read a new hip replacement, cemented a 6in piece of dead bone to it, and joined it to healthy femur lower down her thigh.

Although the technique has been used in the USA and Canada, British surgeons have traditionally used metal grafts to replace bones worn away by the shaft of artificial hips.

Bones from corpses are said to be better because they bond to the recipient's own bones.

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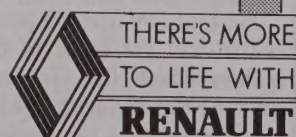
1.1 petrol engine gives 54.3 m.p.g. at a steady 56 m.p.h. or 42.2 m.p.g. at urban cycle. There

are also 1.4 petrol and 1.6 diesel options; both petrol models are capable of running on lead free petrol. The Finesse has a 5 speed gearbox, electronic ignition, full executive carpet trim and an AM/FM radio.

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Atlas



There were no disabled people in the USSR before *perestroika*.

It was as if they did not exist. And this was true not only for the press and television.

For the first thirty years of my able-bodied life in Moscow, I never once saw anybody in a wheelchair. They weren't on the streets, at sports events, on trains or aeroplanes.

Staircases and kerbstones, narrow doorways and the absence of lifts cut off seriously disabled people from the rest of the world. In a society where everybody was required to be happy, disabled people were expelled, condemned to eke out a sad existence on very low allowances and pensions.

At the start of the 1960s disabled war veterans suddenly began appearing on the streets. They were begging. The cooperatives which had provided them with work had been closed.

Police seized them and sent them to "Houses for the Disabled" where, until recently, it was impossible for them to leave, even to go outside, without special permission.

Disabled people – except the blind and deaf who look no different from able-bodied people – were forbidden to form societies. They could only meet each other in special sanatoria, but you could wait ten years or more for admission.

The most serious deprivation was work. The lucky ones managed to arrange work for themselves at home.

One of the most common occupations, still widespread, has been glueing together envelopes by hand. Even today a disabled person receives one rouble (10p) for 1,000 hand-glued envelopes. The monthly income from this work, under constant pressure, rarely exceeds 100 roubles (£10) and hostels often look like stationery warehouses.

The Soviet state does not guarantee work for disabled people. In villages and small towns there are often no enterprises which will hire seriously disabled people.

Most managers, as a questionnaire of mine revealed, simply do not know there is a law requiring a two per cent quota of



Alexei Kupriyanov needs plenty of help when he goes to the theatre.

Perestroika has changed everything – and nothing

Alexei Kupriyanov explains what it's like to live in the USSR

jobs to be reserved for "useless" people. Those who do, think it is unnecessary to comply with the law when nobody is going to cause trouble if it is broken.

We have now been through the first five years under Mikhail Gorbachev. What has changed? Everything and nothing.

The taboo Josef Stalin placed on information about disabled people has been lifted, I hope forever.

Societies for disabled people are being set up everywhere. Charitable work, forbidden after October 1917, has begun again and is growing more widespread. Churches, persecuted for many decades, are becoming active.

But have conditions changed for disabled people in the USSR? No.

I am writing these lines in the only hospital in our country which treats ulcers sustained by people with spinal injury.

For example, there is a desperate shortage of wheelchairs and artificial limbs. He says factory workers are not paid enough to bother to meet production targets and lack of competition means that disabled people can exercise no choice.

"It is getting worse and worse. Many people come to me with problems over their flats or employment or medical help. One said to me: 'I will die here but in another country I could be helped. Please write to the minister.' I can do nothing."

As mayor of his Moscow district (also Mr Gorbachev's) he encourages the registration of new political parties and their coalition against the Communist party.

"There will be a new democratic system," he says. "It may not be headed by Gorbachev. The people will decide. I struggle to give them the chance."

The hospital is in Donetsk, a mining city in the Ukraine. The neurosurgical department treating wheelchair patients is on three floors, with 70 patients in 12 wards on each floor.

They are cared for by two or three nurses per shift and one or two attendants. During the day

"Even today a disabled person receives 1 rouble (10p) for 1,000 hand-glued envelopes."

two other nurses carry out treatments.

Four surgeons and the nurses do all they can. They work enthusiastically. But what can they do when they have literally nothing: bed linen, beds or wheelchairs? The emergency system for calling nurses does not work. Physiotherapy goes on in the entrance hall, by the lifts. There is a constant queue of people for the only toilet on this floor which has one lavatory pan.

People here don't think about disposable syringes because they are not available. More important, there are no pillows or mattresses for people with bedsores. There are not even enough glasses for tea. They gave me tea in a metal soup bowl.

Patients are fed for one rouble 36 kopeks (13p) a day and medicines dispensed for 1 rouble 20 kopecks (12p) a day.

Regardless of the fact that there is often no cold or hot water here for days, the hospital is thought to be very good, unique. Yet its 1990 budget has been cut by 10 per cent.

I could give endless examples of the poor provision for disabled people in the USSR. One person spent three years in bed simply because he did not receive his legally guaranteed free wheelchair (production is down to half the number needed and no wheelchair cushions are manufactured). Another is squashed with his family of four into a room 15 metres square...

In March this year the

Supreme Court of the USSR set up a body which will deal with breaches of the law in the social sphere. This has given disabled people a lot of hope. It has also strengthened the belief of seriously disabled people that they must struggle resolutely for their rights.

One of the most popular deputies of the USSR People's Congress (Parliament) is Ilya Zaslavski, a scientist disabled since birth. His wife, Alla, also seriously disabled, helps him.

Ilya is president of the Association for Charity and Culture (AMIK), which they founded. It unites religious and cultural organisations, such as the Jewish and Armenian cultural centres in Moscow and the Evangelical Christian Baptist Church, and aims to stimulate charitable giving for disabled people.

It also aims to earn money and set up commercial enterprises which will give work to disabled people. But that is in the future.

At Voronezh, a town south-east of Moscow, a cooperative has been set up to act as middle-man between factories and disabled people.

Hundreds of people in wheelchairs are already involved, their work ranging from making sports pennants to parts for video cassette recorders.

Founder and main organiser is Yuri Bistryantsev, whose paralysis did not prevent him graduating from Voronezh State University and becoming a qualified lawyer.

Disabled people have a real future in employment through arrangements like this, but at the moment it is unique.

In another way, today's mass media is doing an invaluable job establishing self-awareness among disabled people throughout the USSR.

The trade union journal *Safety at Work and Social Insurance* devotes pages in each issue to disabled people, and has courageously tackled acute problems. It is ready to cooperate with publications like *DN*.

Alexei Kupriyanov, 36, is president of APPAREL, the association of young disabled of the USSR, and a new committee member of Mobility International. He edits the disability pages in Safety at Work and Social Insurance.

Ilya Zaslavski was in the UK in June and talked to *DN*.

Last year, aged 29, he was elected to the USSR

Parliament on a programme which included improvements for disabled people.

Since then he has secured a resolution that disabled people should continue to receive state benefit if they find work. "We are the only country in the world to have both."

He agrees with Alexei Kupriyanov that attitudes towards disability have changed. "In old times no one knew about disability. Now everyone knows and nobody does anything."

He is pessimistic about any real practical improvements happening until democracy gains ground in the USSR and a market economy is introduced.



TASS

Community transport wows Russians

What's the connection between the Afghan war and the London Community Transport Association?

Colin Jones, co-ordinator of Camden Dial-a-Ride, believes it was pressure by Afghan war veterans that prompted the Soviet Government to request adaptations and community transport for the British trade and industry exhibition held in Kiev, Ukraine, in June.

British Days in the USSR included a fully accessible family home and a freight Rover mini-bus with tail-lift and wheelchair clamps, driven by Colin Jones and Andrew Vaughan from Hammersmith and Fulham Dial-a-Ride.

The mini-bus was a major sensation. "Whenever we parked a crowd came round. We were taking the exhibition out on to the street, to homes and housing estates. People were seeing an aspect of Britain not seen anywhere else in the USSR."

They appeared on TV and in the pages of *Pravda*. They met the Ukraine ministers of social security and transport and handed over three sports wheelchairs given by PSI (UK).

Disabled people visiting the exhibition were able to loan a Chairpower Squirrel and two manual chairs. It was difficult to take them home afterwards.

"A man who was a double amputee used the Squirrel. He

usually propels himself around on a plank with four wheels. It was very distressing."

Some able-bodied attitudes also distressed them. "People often thought it was cruel for disabled people to be seen in public."

But over the month-long exhibition it was noticeable that attitudes changed.

Back home, Colin Jones and Andrew Vaughan are raising money to buy wheelchairs for disabled people they met.

Many disabled people in the Ukraine are also seeking British penfriends.

For a penfriend, or to contribute to a wheelchair, speak to Colin Jones: 071-267 2993.

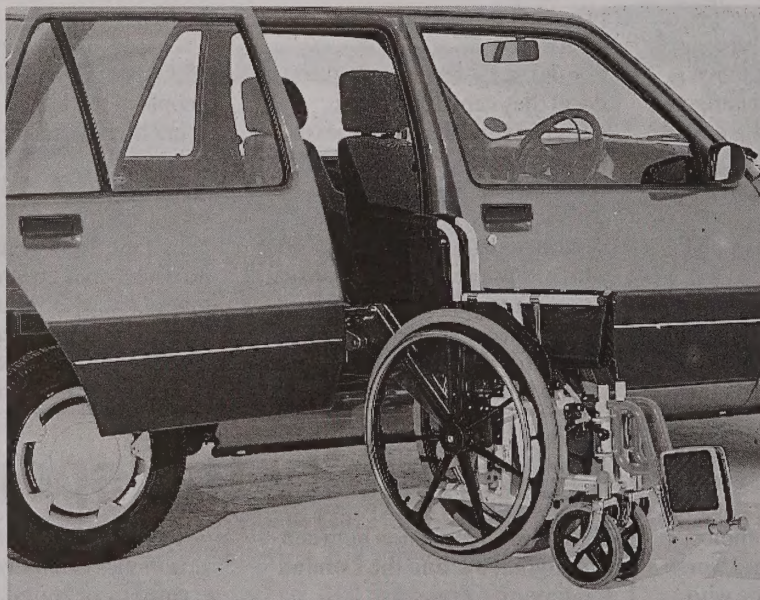


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Ask your local Renault dealer for details of the Renault Disabled Motorists Programme, special finance terms and any required modifications, or return the coupon below.

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THERE'S MORE
TO LIFE WITH
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Toyota super hatch: a winner for wheelchair users

David Griffiths road tests the 3-door Corolla automatic

Toyota is synonymous with quality and reliability, a fact reinforced by the many people who return again and again for the same make of vehicle. (I know someone who is currently driving his eighth, a Camry, and none of them has ever required mechanical attention.)

Today Toyota is disability aware, largely thanks to the caring policies and staff of Automotive and Industrial Developments (AID), well known suppliers of kit hand controls.

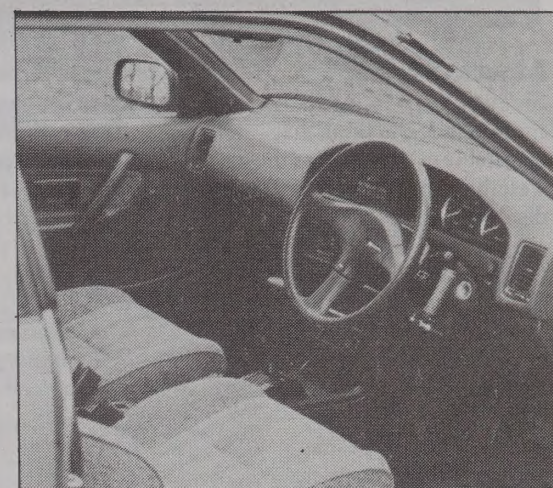
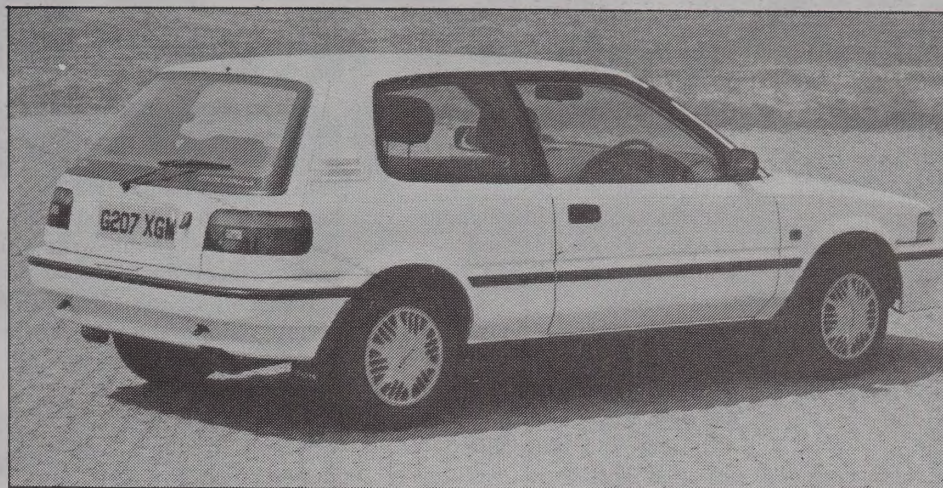
The Corolla must be one of the prettiest 3-door hatchbacks ever. Smooth, sleek, flowing lines blend gracefully, giving it an air of elegance and quality.

Open the hatch, suspended on the gentlest of gas struts, and you find virtually no sill to obstruct loading into a very generous carpeted space. The back seats have a 60/40 split, giving even more room. You could stow two standard adult-size wheelchairs upright in the rear without lowering either back seat. It is the only hatch that I have ever been able to do this with.

The front doors open wide, with firm stays to hold them securely ajar, and require little effort to close.

Inside is one of the most practical layouts you could wish for. Instrumentation is simple, with large, easy to read dials, and the functional controls fall easily to hand. Particularly good for hand control users is the indicator stalk on the right of the column.

Seats are firm, covered in quality corded material, and include the belt mountings, a feature which some people will find helpful but for those who have to transfer from one seat to the



other, as I do, this could be a nuisance. Is it wise to promote the seat mountings to driver-safety status like this?

Heating and ventilation are superb, with easy to use controls. General finish was of a high stan-

to its limits, and quick to respond.

Allied to a nicely balanced, smooth 3-speed automatic transmission which always found the right gear at the right time (not a virtue shown by all such beasts),

came into its own – responsive, sure-footed and safe. Road-holding was excellent and brakes superb, requiring just the lightest of touches from the taught, snug-fitting AID controls.

But, the steering, although accurate, was heavy. However, for 1990 all models will have power steering as standard, an important boon for disabled drivers.

I got 43 mpg in mixed driving and poor conditions, but this could be improved upon. For the green driver, the new Corolla runs on lead and normal fuel without adjustment.

The controls proved superb in use, imparting a firm, accurate feel and sensitivity which matched the car beautifully and were light and easy to use.

AID's method of connecting with the accelerator pedal is interesting. A cable directly linked to an extension piece fitted above the fulcrum of the pedal pushes down the pedal when the cable is pulled up. This gives an excellent "feel" sometimes lacking in kit

controls and doesn't take up foot space.

The effort required to emergency brake was remarkably low, and the working distance very small, which would suit users with limited arm reach or small hands.

The controls look good as well. Gone are the unpolished painted controls of old – the new ones blend in professionally with the Toyota's layout. (AID have their own excellent, low price fitting service in London, but they also supply controls by post for fitting locally and have agents.)

At £8940 the Corolla is not particularly cheap, but it does offer considerable advantages for some: power steering, easy access, light controls, plenty of storage space and proven reliability. Self-loading a wheelchair is easy, and lateral transfer across the seats no worse than any of its rivals.

Toyota are giving a discount of 15 per cent off the basic price, making it an even wiser choice for the new car buyer.

DN's new motoring correspondent

We welcome David Griffiths MBE as the new motoring correspondent.

Disabled himself, David is well-known to many disabled drivers and manufacturers as manager of the Mobility Information Service near Shrewsbury, described in *DN's* survey of driving assessment centres (September 1988) as "an assessment centre which lives up to its name... run by friendly, informative, disabled volunteers."

David is also liaison officer for the Disabled Motorists' Federation.

John Byworth, our previous motoring correspondent, stuck the job for over eight years, and we would like to thank him for his tenacity and hard work, and the support he has given to the development of *DN*.

dard, but I missed a sun roof and a fascia top on which to place things.

There is plenty of leg room but the backs of the seats cannot be brought to a vertical, which may be a problem for some users.

Door mirrors, like the fuel filler cap and the rear hatch, are operated from inside.

So much for the hardware – how did it go? Very nicely. Performance was brisk yet relaxed. The 12-valve 1300 cc engine is a willing unit, quiet unless stressed

the Corolla coped with just about every motoring situation when left in "drive".

(Only a long 1 in 20 out of the Severn Gorge at full throttle caused it to baulk, when it had difficulty deciding whether 2nd or 3rd was ideal.)

Driven thus, the little Corolla

Guidelines for adaptations

The pressure has been on for many years to introduce legislation on hand controls and vehicle adaptations for disabled drivers.

On paper there is every good reason for doing so, but in practice such legislation would have many drawbacks, leading to streamlining of products, higher technology, a reduction in the number of suppliers and fitters, and ultimately vast increases in cost.

Disability is a complex, varied thing, requiring flexibility.

Britain's vehicle adaptors, and disabled drivers themselves, have always had a free hand. This has enabled many disabled people to become drivers in our country while our European counterparts would remain housebound.

Guidelines on the Adaptation of Car Controls for Disabled People is a brave attempt to bring order without enforcement, to encourage quality and professionalism without encroaching upon flexibility.

Drawn up by the Institute of Mechanical Engineers with the Department of Transport and the Transport and Road Research

Laboratory, it is aimed at adaptation manufacturers and fitters, and disabled users. It contains much sense and information which many would do well to heed.

Although the days of DIY controls are now a thing of the past, there are still cowboys around, and if this excellent publication prevents just one more Escort RS or Vauxhall Viva taking to the road on a mixture of old stair-ropes and curtain wire it will have achieved its aim.

For anyone contemplating having a vehicle adapted it outlines good practice, with clear illustrations. There is an excellent section on electrical installations and wire-routing and grounding.

For those in the trade, there is much useful advice and information to help them ensure that work completed for the customer is acceptable.

Guidelines on the Adaptation of Car Controls for Disabled People is available from The Institute of Mechanical Engineers, 1 Birdcage Walk, London SW1H 9JJ, £8.



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To: Mobility Scheme, Rover Cars, Longbridge, P.O. Box 395, Birmingham B31 2TB. Please send me details of your Mobility Scheme and a list of qualified dealers and distributors.



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Letters to the Editor

Disability Now, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ

A touch of pride?

So Sue Elsegood, Allan Sutherland, *et al* think that charitable events such as the Telethon are “degrading” to disabled people. (DN July).

I genuinely feel sorry for them. Getting people to “give” is difficult enough, but learning to “receive” with good grace is even more difficult and requires considerable maturity. To refuse is manifest pride.

As for the charge that participating companies are getting “free advertising”, I should point out that there is a considerable difference between paid-for advertising and public relations in the form of sponsorship. In the former, the advertiser chooses the time, the audience, and the message; in the latter they have no control over either.

Sponsorship might be “good value for money” and good business, but to compare the two is not to understand the nature of advertising nor the media business.

The Telethon helped to raise funds for, among many other charities, the Multiple Sclerosis Society. Money which will be spent on much-needed research. As someone with MS, I personally don't really care where the money comes from. **Terence Wilson**
Colchester, Essex

Poland: self-help

I and my friend, Thomas Dwardowski are both paraplegics, 36 and 26, from Poland. We live on the upper floors of our houses and there are

no lifts so we live in isolation and hardly ever go out.

But we are both very interested in the culture of the UK and taught ourselves to read English.

Now our great dream has come true, to spend a holiday in Britain, and we are here as guests of the Hertfordshire Association for the Disabled.

We completely agree with the article on Poland (DN July) and think we can answer the questions raised in it.

About 90 per cent of severely handicapped people are imprisoned in flats on upper floors without lifts and facilities.

The only rehabilitation is medical. Disabled people are trained to do simple tasks irrespective of their brain power and even someone who has a university degree is not offered work that he is capable of doing.

The situation is deteriorating badly, especially for members of the co-operatives. Bureaucracy is crushing down and members are helpless and unable to do anything positive on their own behalf. They protest and have hunger strikes but to no avail.

Disabled people are tied to their boring work because they have no alternative. They have no idea that things could be better because they have never seen anything different.

But a few people have set up their own small self-help clubs. Ours is part of the Catholic Association, Peace and Goodness.

There are 20 able-bodied and 20 disabled members. Our aim is to find the right work for our members, to get them

telephones, to exchange flats (to ground floor) – though the scarcity of housing makes this extremely difficult. We want them to lead more active lives and be more a part of the community.

There is no possibility we could realise our plans without help from abroad. We need information, for example on how to fundraise, medical supplies such as incontinence bags and sheaths because without them people cannot go out, and lightweight secondhand wheelchairs.

We cannot count on the authorities for help. Only new models and experiences from abroad can give us the impetus to achieve a better way of life.

Andrzej Mapernia

UL Point Jagielly 3
35211 Rzeszow
Poland

Ruled out

We would like you to know what happened on a British Airways return flight to Braunschweig, West Germany on 6 June.

There was a delay of about two hours before the plane's take-off at Heathrow. Our group, which included several wheelchair users, was supposed to be the reason for the complications.

The captain mentioned improperly packed batteries.

Three of the four batteries, (spillable) wet-cell batteries, were packed according to the BA guidelines and had been flown from Hanover to Heathrow with no difficulty.

The other (non-spillable) wet-cell battery was, according to the guidelines, acceptable if left in the wheelchair battery tray.

However, a short time before the intended take-off two members of our staff had to leave the plane to remove the non-spillable battery so that it could be carried separately. Referring to the guidelines didn't change anything.

We do not understand why there were difficulties about accepting the boxes, which arrived in Hanover with only one more piece of tape around them, and why we were obliged to take off the non-spillable battery.

As you may imagine, we are rather upset. The captain's announcement conveyed the feeling that disabled people are not welcome as passengers; they cause inconvenience and disarrange routine flying

operations. A subtle kind of discrimination.

S Gruner, H Hilbrich and others

Braunschweig, West Germany

British Airways says it is looking into the matter – Editor.

Hang in there

After seeing the photograph of Jean Francois Fauchier flying a hang glider in a wheelchair (DN July) I felt that I should write with some further information.

Jean is one of only a handful of disabled hang glider pilots in the world. Some are paraplegic and others have lost limbs in accidents.

What unites them all is that they qualified as pilots before they became disabled. When they returned to the air they had to overcome their disabilities but they already had the knowledge, experience and skill of flying a glider.

It is a different matter altogether if you are disabled before you take to the air. I speak from experience; I have cerebral palsy with athetosis and disarthria.

Last year I spent two weeks in Wales learning to fly hang gliders. After seven days flying I gained an elementary pilot certificate, sort of half way to a full licence.

That is not to say it was easy, it was not. You need to be fit, able to get up steep hills, a certain amount of physical strength and mental ability, you need a lot of determination, patience and, don't forget, guts.

The list is endless but it is possible and unbelievably rewarding.

My instructor was a New Zealand pilot and had not met many disabled people. As I learnt about flying he learnt about disability.

Instructors expect all pupils to be as independent as possible. If you cannot carry a 56lb glider back up the hill you need to organise someone to do it.

The going rate is £30 per day plus £40 instructor's fees. The whole business is costly until you qualify.

It is possible to fly in a wheelchair, but this requires a take-off ramp to be built on the side of a hill, structural adaption to the glider and much more organisation in general.

It is true that the British Hang

Gliding Association are not enthusiastic about disabled people learning to hang glide. However, when I qualify as a pilot (which I hope to if I can obtain sponsorship), and they see that I can fly safely and competently I think their attitude must change.

As yet there are no instructors or schools which specialise in teaching disabled people to hang glide.

It is my long term intention to set up a disabled hang gliding association which will coordinate the training of disabled pilots. If you are interested in hang gliding do write to me.

Steve Varden

66 Middleton Road
Heysham, Morecambe
Lancashire LA3 2SA

Grosvenor House

Your article headed “Bad taste” (DN June) contains inaccuracies.

Not only was the BSAD party welcomed warmly on the balcony – they did not miss out – but also arrangements were made for the young athletes to have the pleasure and honour to be introduced to HRH the Duke of Edinburgh, also on the balcony. They then proceeded to the Great Room using the lift.

Although it is hoped that when Grosvenor House is in due course refurbished alterations for easier access to the Great Room and the hotel generally will be incorporated, the lunch was greatly appreciated and enjoyed and BSAD was delighted to be invited to have a table.

Philip Lewis MBE

Chairman
British Sports Association for the Disabled

Recommended

It may be of interest to readers to know that recently the Brittle Bone Society had its AGM at the Swallow Hotel, Peterborough.

Over 500 members attended and this modern and beautifully-designed hotel catered excellently for a huge number of wheelchair-bound guests.

It is a comfortable, stylish, accessible hotel with willing, pleasant staff and high professional standards, and has only been open a couple of years.

We liked it so much we are going back again next year.

Francesca G S Garman

Editor
Brittle Bone Society Newsletter

wooden steps she had to clamber down. Who was the press do organised by? The Centre for Policy on Ageing.

Searching for a job

Trainees at the Westminster Training and Development Association in London might be looking forward to reading the Government's employment review. They spent one Saturday last month searching for “treasure” in Tower Hamlets borough to raise money for a deaf woman to travel to Alaska. “The treasure hunt is a test of initiative for the trainees, a skill that can only help them in the jobmarket,” said the principal of the Westminster Association. You did want to be a Telethon fundraiser, didn't you?



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Hidden agenda

Culture vultures from all around Britain, including the North West Disability Arts Forum, went to Liverpool last month for a conference on a much-neglected subject, community arts. Let's hope they got down to some serious talking. According to the publicity, the get-together “provides a focus on arts development policies as they impact upon local initiatives through to country-wide strategies.” And I just wanted to use a paintbrush.

Short straw

Why are children with cerebral palsy often shorter than average, asked a paper in the *Lancet* medical journal recently. “Disabled children cannot

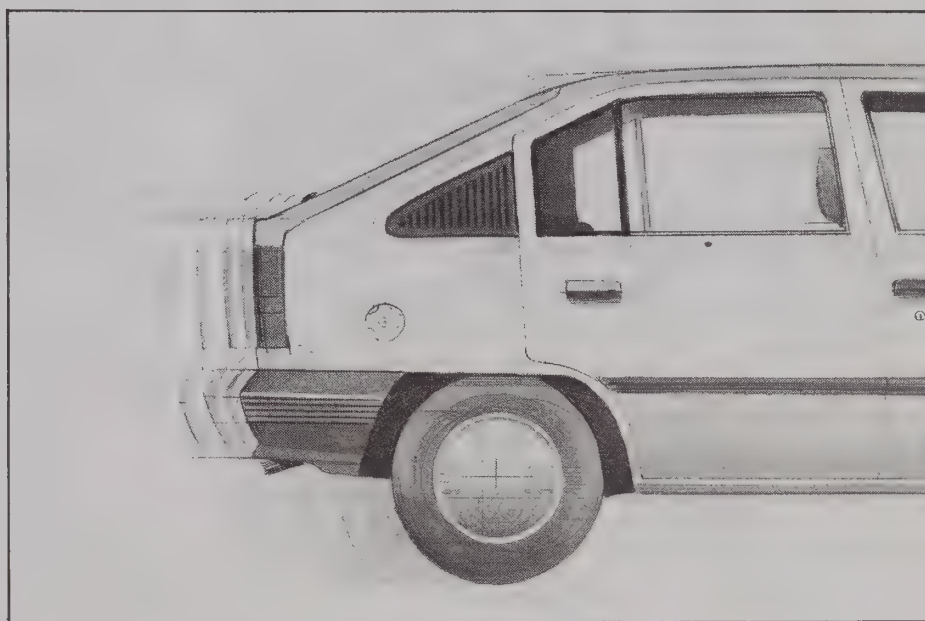
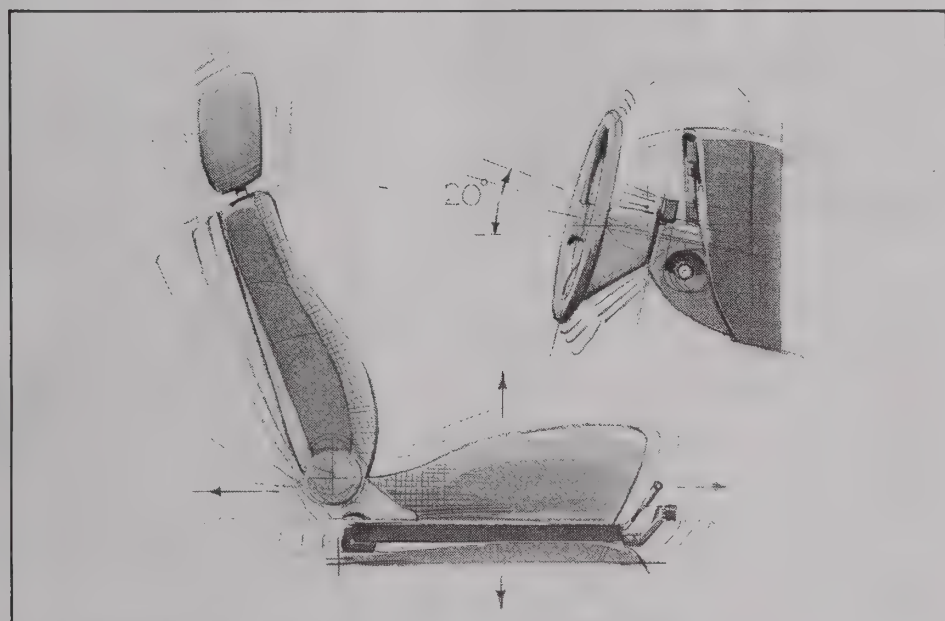
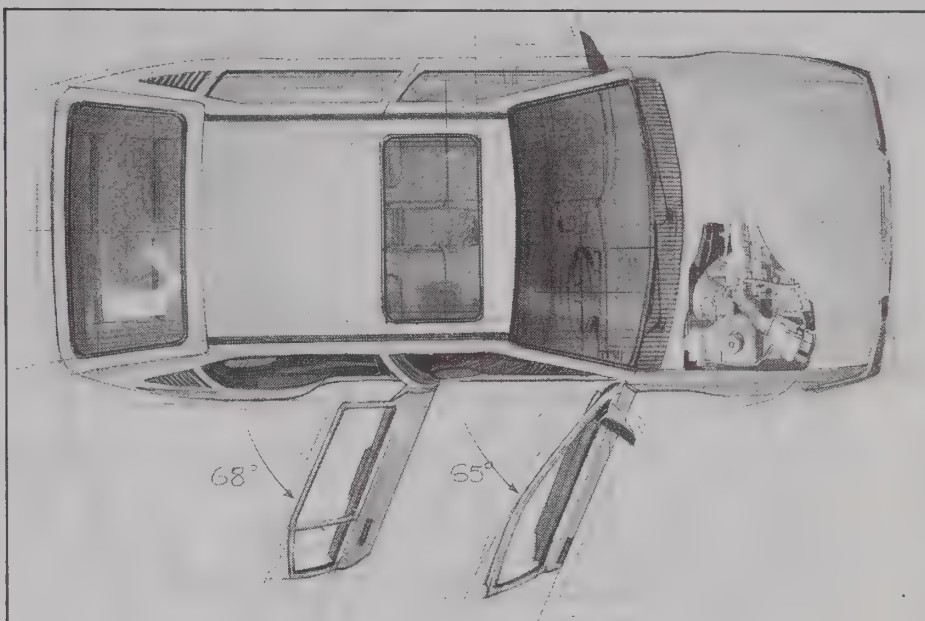
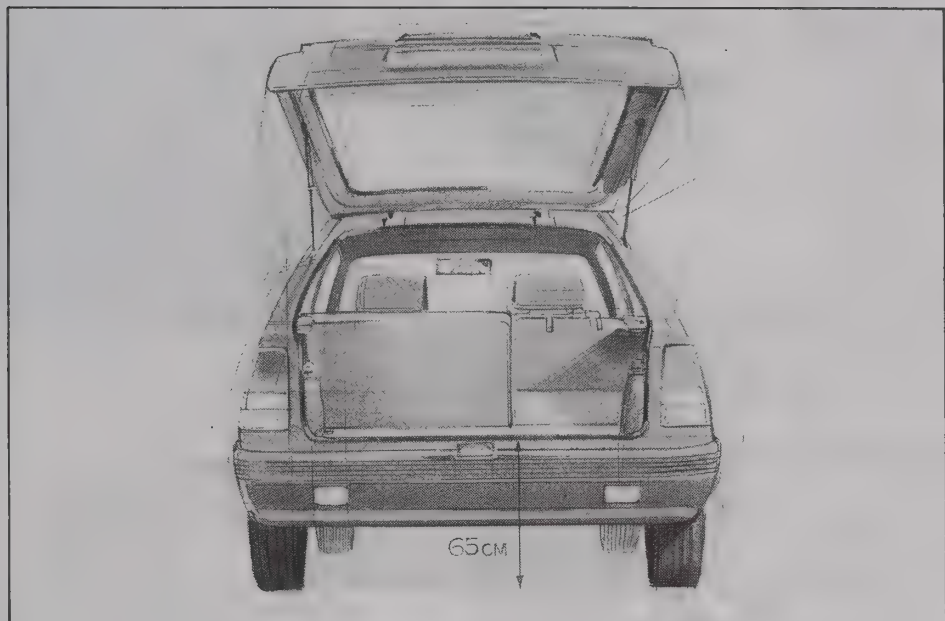
sic

forage for food in the kitchen or buy snacks at the sweetshop as readily as able-bodied children” is one of its suggestions. Maybe they don't get fat either.

A step behind

Those of you wanting to apply for the RADAR-funded scheme for disabled journalists (DN June) should beware the experiences of one of DN's intrepid reporters. She went to a press conference on a boat with Sir Roy Griffiths, architect of the Government's community care policy. She certainly wished there was ring-fencing around the steep, rickety

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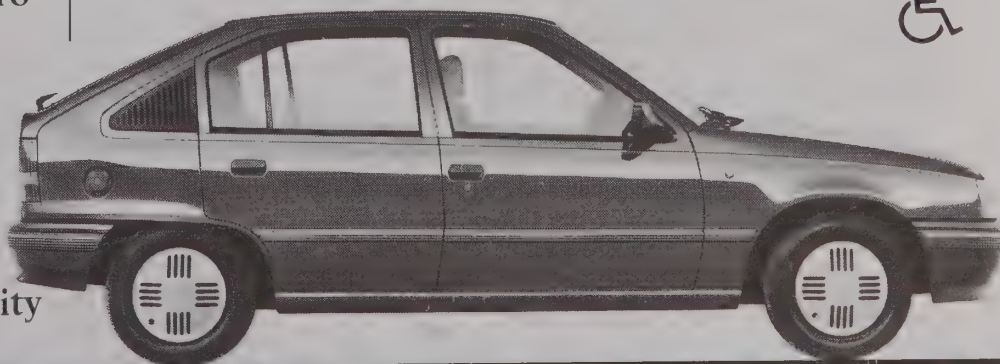
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TENNIS

British champions on the way

Britain is catching up with America and Europe in the wheelchair tennis stakes. The first international wheelchair tennis tournament – the British Open – comes to London this August, thanks to sponsorship worth £20,000 from Legal and General.

Wheelchair tennis will also break away from its demonstration status in Seoul to become a competitive sport at the next Paralympics in 1992.

The first "Davis Cup" tie between England and Argentina took place at Eastbourne this year.

"We may produce a national wheelchair champion before we produce an able-bodied one," said Sue Wolstenholme, director of the Lawn Tennis Association Trust.

"We want more people to play and more coaches to realise that people in wheelchairs can play,"

added Danielle Lewis of the trust.

But only a couple of tournaments offer prize money and the trust has to find sponsors for players who want to travel abroad.

The trust is to tour schools and sports clubs in the autumn to promote the sport.

The quality of the top British players is improving. Both the final and semi-finals of Britain's national competition in Swindon at the end of June went to the maximum three sets.

Jayant Mistry from Leicester, Britain's third seed, beat Simon

Hatt, Britain's second seed, 7-5, 4-6, 6-3. In the doubles Jayant Mistry and Aslam Abubaker beat Simon Hatt and Tony Holland 7-6 6-3.

The top seed, Chris Illingworth, could not play because of a broken leg.

Women will be playing at the British Open, but the women's game in this country has yet to take off – no women came to the national championship.

Enthusiasm is increasing among the men. Simon Hatt, 25, gave up his job at disability arts organisation Shape to play tennis full-time. He does not regret it



Singles and doubles winner Jayant Mistry

though it is a struggle to get enough money. Most other players have jobs.

Bob Dockerill, 30, Britain's fourth seed, has been playing wheelchair tennis for two years. He'd been playing basketball and at first couldn't believe a wheelchair could cover a tennis court. But now he says: "If you make mistakes it is down to you – that's what I like about it."

The game is the same as able-bodied tennis, except the ball is allowed to bounce twice before being hit.

Singles players often play the game from the baseline, because they have to take the ball low down and lobbing is much easier than volleying at the net.

In contrast to other disability sports, wheelchair tennis players are ranked in four categories according to ability, not type of disability.

*The LTA Trust, 071-385 4233.
The National Wheelchair Tennis Association, 071-736 3854.*



Julia Forrester: two golds in Badminton

Come and Try It Days – archery, and horse riding for people with sensory impairment or learning difficulties in Yorkshire – August to September. Contact: Bradford, Tim Hurst, tel: 0274 7523; Calderdale, Des O'Neill, tel: 0422 3111; Kirklees, Helen Robinson, tel: 0484 2111.

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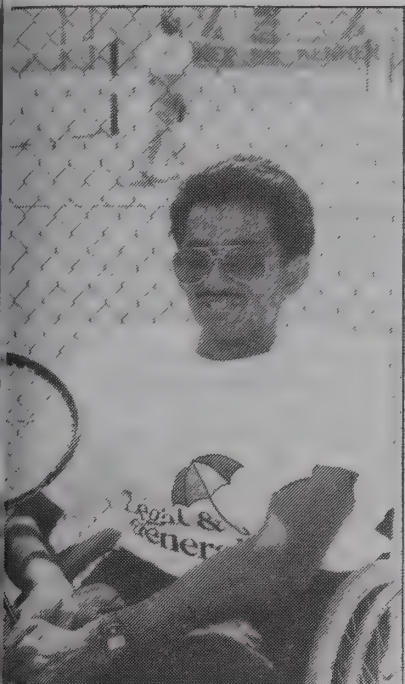


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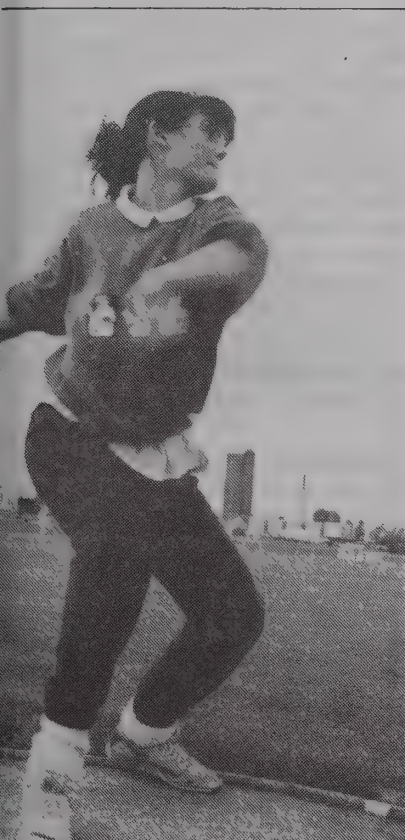
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with partner Aslam Abubaker.



n Williams, discus record-breaker.

SWIMMING

World record in 100m freestyle

David Moreton from Coventry broke the world freestyle 100m swimming record for disabled people in June.

David, 17, a below the knee amputee, is the first disabled person to swim the distance in under one minute. He finished in 58.91 seconds at the British Sports Association for the Disabled national swimming championships in Darlington. His previous best time was 60.14 seconds.

He has been swimming competitively since he was 11 and trains with Britain's able-bodied youth squad trainer, Nick Sellwood. David competed in the Paralympics in 1988.

Beverley Gull from London, Tim Reddish from Nottingham, and Claire Bishop from Middlesex won seven gold medals each.

They also competed in the world championships for disabled people at Assen, Holland in July – results next month.

GOLF

Amputee golf tees off

The first British Amputee Golf championship was held in Wales in June.

Australian Geoff Nicholis, a below the knee amputee, was the overall champion with 149 strokes over two days at the Bryn Meadows Hotel course.

Bill Harding from America, an above the knee amputee, came second with 162 strokes.

There were five English players in the top ten.

For details of amputee golf contact Brian Mayo, Bryn Meadows Hotel, tel: (0495) 225590.

The British One-Armed Golfers' Association, Tyne and Wear, tel: 091-469 4742.



Easy does it: Vietnam veteran golfer Tom Quinn came third in his category.

ADRIAN BEESE

BASA GAMES

Pentathlon record broken

Star of this year's British Amputee Sports Association (BASA) national games was physical education teacher Tony Willis from Plymouth (A2), who broke his own world record in the pentathlon.

Not only did he make an outstanding long jump of 4m on one leg, but he also had to do a 100m run, high jump, discus and shot putt to complete the rigorous pentathlon requirements.

The games, held at the Ludwig Guttmann Sports Centre, Aylesbury, at the end of June, attracted only about 70 people over two days.

"It was a disappointing turn out," admitted BASA's hon secretary John Fisher. "There were not nearly as many as in

previous years. I don't know why."

Nevertheless national records were broken in archery, rifle and pistol shooting.

Robert Barrett from Herne Bay (A4) broke the long jump record with a magnificent jump of 4.7m, while Kathleen Williams from Wrexham (A4), set new national records in the women's javelin and discus.

Numbers were swelled by BLASA members (British Les Autres Sports Association).

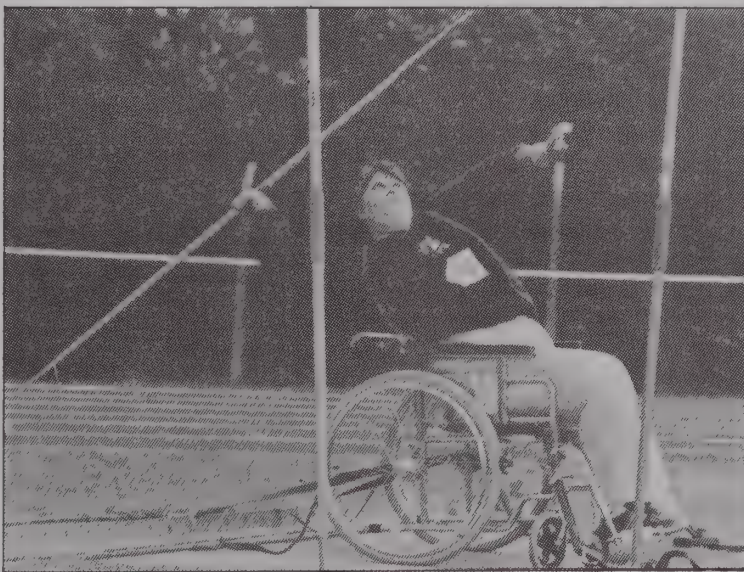
Keith Morriss, for example, air rifle winner at the BLASA games earlier in the month, and holder of the British Air Rifle Trophy, was there.

Since 1988 the two organisations have been federated for international competitions. But at national level they maintain their independence while allowing their members to attend each others' national games. There is talk of one games next year.



Eye on the target: Les Autres champion Keith Morriss

GRAHAM BOOL



Diane Baker competing in the women's wheelchair javelin.



Bowling at the BASA games: J Baldarn (Les Autres)

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BOOKS

The Baby Challenge

by Mukti Jain Campion
(Routledge £10.99)

This is a very useful handbook for any woman with a physical disability who is contemplating having a baby or health professionals who should be helping them.

There has been a distinct lack of information and guidance on the subject; Mukti Jain Campion attempts to fill the gap. She became aware of the problem when she was pregnant and working on a tv programme about disability.

Written in an easy-to-read style, with a foreword by Wendy Savage, the book is divided into two parts.

The first part is applicable to any woman with a physical disability.

The author says that even if the degree of handicap varies, many challenges may be the same.

For example, lack of accessible and accurate information; difficult access to buildings and inappropriate equipment, such as high hospital beds or poorly placed adapted toilets; feelings of isolation because you don't meet others in the same position, and lack of understanding support from health professionals who seem only concerned with the medical outcome.

I liked the helpful, realistic checklists for "First steps in deciding to start a family", eg "how well-adjusted do you think you are to your disability?"; "how active a life are you able to lead?"; "how much help do you require with daily tasks?"

The book also covers issues such as whether it is fair for a child to be born to a parent with a disability, the medical feasibility



The family challenge.

of having a child, and fertility.

It considers getting the best out of support services, pregnancy, delivery in hospital, practical tips when you and your child get home, understanding why some professionals display negative attitudes to people with disabilities.

The second part of the book covers the case histories of

women with specific disabilities, illustrating both positive and negative experiences.

In my own experience, the positives have outweighed the negatives.

The quotations make the whole issue come to life.

"The single most important factor that disabled women share is a desire to be treated as normal," says Mukti Jain Campion.

And a mother with polio comments: "Is it worth it? What would any parent say? I am a parent first and disabled second. We have our problems but so does every other family. We're not so different."

Each special disability section ends with a list of references and further reading, and there are many helpful organisations at the end of the book.

Marion Long

Nothing Special

by Micheline Mason
(Working Press, Central Books Warehouse, 14 Leathermarket, London SE1 3ER, £2.50)

Nothing Special is a very special book. Micheline has written it after studying lots of good practice in integrated education and remembering her own and other young disabled peoples' experiences.

The book addresses disability in a positive way, showing the problems that disabled people face in the areas of mobility, communication and self-help, but it focuses more on ways to

overcome the problems.

Nothing Special emphasises the importance of feelings for one another and, in particular, those we have about ourselves.

It deals with embarrassing moments and describes how sympathetic, resourceful adults can ease them.

The book's most special feature is that it talks of disability being "quite ordinary really" and implies that we are all, regardless of ability, a resource to each other and that disabled young people are the humanising factor all schools need.

We work in an "all ability" school. Children from the most able to those with the most profound special needs attend, work, and live together.

It is nothing special really, but Micheline Mason is right – all of us are better for the experience.

Ian Mitchell and Lana Coy

NEW NOVEL

Mightier than the Sword

by Clare Bevan
(Blackie, £7.95)

When Adam Richard Tompkins and his classmates start a new school project about King Arthur and his knights of the Round Table, it soon becomes clear, to Adam at least, that this is no ordinary assignment.

As he and his friends build an elaborate game around the old legend, Adam becomes aware of a whole string of coincidences which link his own life with that

of the ancient hero.

Just as King Arthur and his knights had a quest to find the Holy Grail, Adam mobilises his gang to fight the team of invading builders commissioned by a distant landowner to destroy the local beauty spot of ancient trees and village pond. The gang adopts the landowner as their arch-enemy in place of Sir Mordred.

Perhaps the most unusual aspect of this book is that the hero is disabled.

It would be very easy for the author to romanticise his disability, but one of the book's merits is that his problems are mentioned in a very matter-of-fact way which nevertheless conveys his bravery and patience.

But disability in the book comes across as a side issue and not a dominant preoccupation. This is very valuable since it shows that disability is not the primary factor which determines a person's character.

The overall message could be that "the pen is mightier than the sword," thus implying that although there are a great many physical things that Adam is unable to do, there are other ways in which he can be equally powerful.

The book is written in a very friendly and immediate style which makes it a highly enjoyable read.

The book would probably appeal most to children between the ages of 8 and 13, disabled and able-bodied alike.

Emma Satyamurti

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FILM

Comic strip hero hits the screen

Andy Kimpton-Nye calls the shots on *Dick Tracy*



Madonna getting *Breathless* on stage

PETER SOREL

Summer and the silly season are with us again.

Not only is it time for the masses to sojourn at the seaside, it's also time for the fans to flock to the cinema to see the latest blockbuster. Last year we were treated to *Batman*. This year it's a movie version of *Dick Tracy*, the 1930s comic strip.

Dick Tracy could easily be dismissed as frivolous.

However, the film's treatment of disabilities makes it much more sinister than that.

An expensive looking B-movie, made with \$25m from Disney, *Dick Tracy* is very much the baby of Warren Beatty who plays the lead role and directs. After having previous flops with *Reds* and *Ishtar*, Beatty was very anxious to make this one a winner.

This explains the casting of Madonna as *Breathless* Mahoney, the *femme fatale*. As an icon in pop music mythology, Madonna guarantees good business at the box office.

Whether the flimsy plot proves to be anywhere near as alluring is

another matter.

Al Pacino plays Bad Boy Caprice who, with a syndicate of

assorted baddies, wants to take control of the city. But Dick Tracy is out to stop him.

Meanwhile, a mysterious figure known as The Blank plots to outwit them both. The real climax is the unmasking of The Blank, but my lips are sealed as to its identity – why ruin a rare high point in an otherwise disappointing movie?

The sets and cinematography look great, but that's about it. The non-stop action and the violently loud sound track assault the powers of concentration. And, as is usual, most of the baddies are disabled. Bad Boy, Littleface, Mumbles, Pruneface... the disparaging names sum up the film's attitude to disabilities.

This constant connection in the movies between disability and evil only adds to the negative image of disabled people. Given that the link between what we see on the screen and what we do in society is so strong, a mega-movie like *Dick Tracy*, though seemingly inoffensive, is in fact extremely harmful.

Dick Tracy is on release throughout the country. Check local press.

TV drama about disability is rare. It is a powerful tool which must be used carefully, especially when it is for children and young people.



Amy (ITV, 17 & 24 June), is a TV movie from the Disney organisation, and was shown in the Sunday morning children's slot.

Amy is a teacher at a school for deaf/blind children in the early 1900s who determines that her pupils shall speak, because her husband had condemned her own deaf child's inability to do so. The school only practices sign language because it is felt that nothing more can be expected of deaf children!

The American producers would know that the US profile of sign language and deaf culture is higher than that of oralism.

But young British viewers don't know that, and might have got the impression that speaking is morally right, and the only means by which deaf people can lead "full lives." They may also have assumed that sign language is defeatist and inferior.

After the film there was no comment which could have corrected these assumptions. Hopefully, *Amy* was intended as entertainment. But, perhaps coincidentally, it was also dangerous propaganda.

The plus side of well thought-out television fiction is TV-101 (C4, Mondays).

A teacher arrives at a high school and converts the in-house journal into a video news programme. Among his class of video journalism students is Marty, played by Stuart Goddard, who (as far as I can see) may be a genuinely disabled actor.

As all the class appear each week, this means a regular subtle injection of disability awareness. An excellent example of how to make drama work for this purpose.

Among this month's documentaries was *Candle on the Hill* (BBC2, 20 & 27 June and 4 July). Three sympathetic, but not always empathetic, films about the Camphill community for "the mentally handicapped."

The filmmaker, Jonathan Stedall, was rather uncritical about the ethos of the organisation, by which everyone works unwaged. Although all in the community appeared contented, this does not make the ethos valid.

Citizen 2000 (C4, 20 June) gave an update on 7-year old Rachel. She is still endearing, but unfortunately stands out as the only one of the children in the series who does not appear to be maturing.

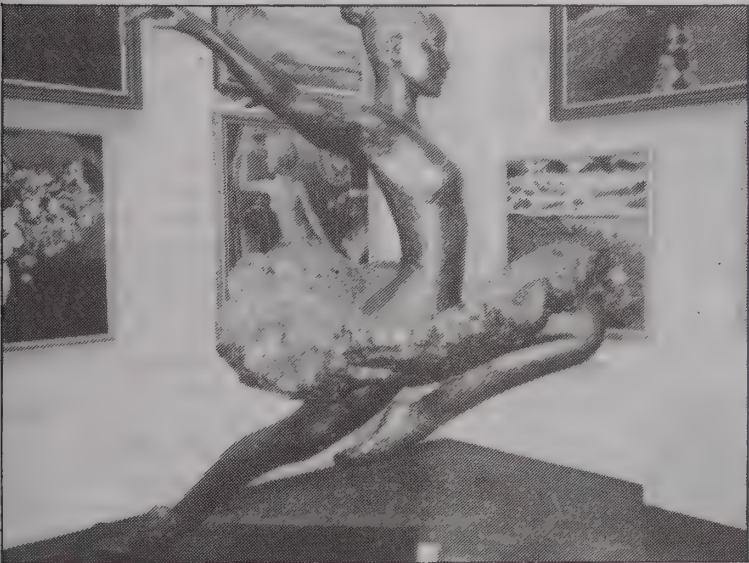
Finally, watch out for the excellent Fuji film commercial featuring Pino Frumiento from disability theatre group *Heart 'n' Soul*. Revolutions often have quiet beginnings!

Chris Davies

ART

Royal Academy

Whether one enjoys or merely tolerates the annual summer show at the Royal Academy, it is part of London's summer scene. Over 112,000 visitors from here and abroad saw it last year. This year's show, the 222nd, runs until 19 August.



Swan Lake: a bronze in full flight

REBECCA REYNOLDS

Many of the pieces left deep impressions on the mind and the fingertips. These include *Plane Logic*, a visually beautiful, winding shape in cool marble by Michael Stallard.

The smooth curves and angles of two pieces in Portland stone, *Sentinel* and *Rhythm*, by Stephen Hitchin, were most pleasing to explore.

If one likes the familiar touch of wood then Willi Soukop's figures are a must. His work is always a great favourite with any visually impaired friends who

visit the exhibition with me.

Sydney Harpley contributes another of his fascinating large bronze figures that balance on one small point. This year it is *Swan Lake* (no marks for guessing it's of a ballet dancer). It is lovely to examine by touch, even though her arms are stretched too high to reach. Some of his smaller pieces are easily accessible.

There are many abstract shapes, puzzling and provocative, with a few that are even revolting.

Textures include stone, bronze, steel, marble, plaster, wood and even gold leaf.

Pictures, subject, colours – you name it, it's there. With styles from the acknowledged professionals to the lesser known amateur, there is something to please every taste.

Gioya Steinke

If you missed the special day phone the RA's education department, tel: 071 439 7438, and they will try to help. Wheelchairs are available, as well as a list of items that can be touched. Or contact Artsline, tel: 071 388 2227. Toilets for disabled people are on the ground floor.

THEATRE

New breed of birds

When the theatre company New Breed made their Manchester debut in November I felt distinctly disappointed at the tameness of their first production, an adaptation of Aristophanes' *The Birds*.

The Birds kept the discomfort level in the auditorium nice and low as it made nothing more than sublime references to the prejudices faced by disabled people today.

But *Birds II*, which toured Greater Manchester in June, redressed the balance by using humour and not the soap box to spotlight how disabled people are patronized and pigeon-holed by a society that thinks it knows what is best for them.

It also showed how prejudice breeds prejudice, as the Antagonist (a memorably amusing Glynn Owen) ventures deep into the heart of Bird Country, with the illicit aim of gaining the confidence or Tereus the Hoopoe, the bird at the top (played by an excellent Sue

Napolitano).

The Antagonist wants Terues' help to build "Cloud Cuckoo Land, a great bird city in the sky that will enable the birds to rule over their oppressors, mankind."

Beaks at the ready, the suspicious and contemptuous birds prepare to slaughter the human antagonist. Then the Sad Searching Bird (Margaret Shaw) has a brainwave and tells her feathered friends that they are guilty, like the Antagonist was, of blowing up the physical differences that exist between them and their human visitor out of all proportion, and illustrates the point by placing her bird mask on his head.

Performances under Gabriel Gawin's astute direction were beautifully rounded and self-assured. Some impressive atmospheric touches were created by piped organ music and a thumping bodran, played by Gabriel Gawin.

New Breed have the nucleus of something good here. *Birds II* was a welcome alternative to the usual "run of the mill" disability polemic.

Definitely a company to watch out for over the coming months.

Richard Bowen

A Birds III is planned for next year. More details to appear in DN as they arrive.

Look out for...

Wordshare creative writing magazine would like to hear from disabled contributors. If you are interested please write to Keith Ashton, 3 Grainsby Close, Lincoln LN6 7QF.

The Disabled Photographers' Society's annual exhibition is on 3-8 September at the Europa Gallery, Sutton Library, Surrey. For more details tel: 081-770 4739/4740.

The London Disability Arts Forum's *Workhouse* cabaret evenings continue at Willesden Green Library Centre on 3 August, tel: 081-451 4875. Also at Chats Palace on 23 August, tel: 081-986 6714 with Allan Sutherland and Chris Harrison LDAF, tel: 071 935 5588.

Wheelchair user Brian Jenkins' self-portrait is on the open air sculpture court at the *Hayward Gallery's* British Art Show until 12 August. Tel: 071-928 3144.

"I would be very interested to know of any *DN* readers who feel called to the religious life but, because of their disabilities or other circumstances, have been unable to take it up.

What advice would you offer? I have a rare progressive disease and although I have found fulfilment in my own particular call to the religious life, I feel there is still a gap when it comes to traditional-type communities within the established churches. Your comments and suggestions would be welcome."

"It seems to me that when people with disabilities feel the need to go on retreat or have a few quiet days in uplifting surroundings, more than the familiar dreary pack of problems arise to howl at our heels.

Retreat houses are usually beautiful and full of atmosphere – just the thing for the physically fit. Here they can ramble at will, at one, we hope, with God and the building.

For us, though, there is often no such luxury. It may be, though rarely, that kindly folk have added a disabled wing, remote from the rest and with all the spiritual ambience of a Portlao.

One I recently visited emphasised that it was for "special category prisoners" by being surrounded with acres of deep white gravel which would have daunted the entire airborne division of the SAS, let alone my unarmed wheelchair.

If any group of people need the stimulus and thrill of intimate contact with beautiful and holy things, in rare and ancient

Share Your Problems

with Margaret Morgan

Many ways but few means to find God



surroundings, it is us disabled people, who for so much of our lives have to tolerate the drab, the modern, the secular, the ugly – and pretend that we do not mind.

More than this, many of us learn to explore and enlarge our own spirituality in more traditional ways than the clap-happy pap that disabled people are often fed. This may be by joining some permanent community either fully or from time to time and by participating in its daily life of prayer – if such a thing did not seem so improbable as to be absurd.

If you feel, as I do, the urgent need for such a community, living in accessible surroundings that are lovely and quiet, ancient and holy, a community of prayer, from which we would not retreat feeling cheated of the very things we so desperately need, then please let me know. I have a shrewd suspicion that I am not alone."

I have talked over these needs with people in different denominations and it is clear that the opportunities for people with disabilities to test their vocation or engage fully in retreats are limited.

I have never met anyone with a

severe physical disability who has entered a religious community, although there are many people who have developed a disability after taking their vows and have stayed on and been cared for.

The Sisters of Christ Crucified at St John's Priory, Castle Cary, Somerset, are a very small community where disabled and ill women live the monastic life together, guided by the rule of St Benedict.

A UNIQUE SERVICE!

Lin Berwick, *DN*'s telephone counsellor, herself disabled, can give other disabled people and their carers advice and support on personal and spiritual problems. Talk to her on Monday afternoons, 1pm-5pm and Thursdays 6pm-10pm. Her telephone number is (04024) 77582.

This service is sponsored by Kirton Healthcare Group.

But even here, it would be difficult to include a woman with a severe or progressive disability who might need more help than the other sisters can provide. They do, however, have a guest house where disabled visitors are welcomed for short stays.

Where retreats are concerned there is more scope, though our second correspondent's points are still valid. Much more could be done, but surely some of our beautiful old buildings will never be fully accessible.

Feeling, and being, at one with the rest of the community is not just a matter of access. I believe there are some deep-seated reasons why people who have more than minimal disabilities have found it difficult to join a community or even a retreat on equal terms. Those who want to care for others often find it hard to lay aside their "providing" role and for many of us it is much easier to give than to receive.

In the October issue of *All People*, the quarterly magazine of Church Action on Disability, this and other topics will be explored.

In the meantime, concern about this gap in provision is growing. My advice to those who are seeking more openings in the religious life is to talk and write about it, track down others who are interested and, above all, pray for greater understanding.

If you would like to comment, please write to me, c/o *DN*.

These guides indicate facilities for disabled people though you should phone first.

Away from it all: a guide to retreat houses and centres for spiritual renewal, by Geoffrey Gerard. Lutterworth Press. £4.95.

The Vision, the National Retreat Association's yearly list of retreat houses. £1.30 from Liddon House, 24 South Audley House, 24 South Audley Street, London W1Y 5DL, tel: 071-493 3534.

Accessible Retreat Centres, reference only from St Joseph's Centre, The Burroughs, London NW4 4TY, tel: 081-202 3999.

Church Action on Disability, Charisma Cottage, Drewsteignton, Exeter EX6 6QR, tel: 0647 21259.

PROFILE



Ted Castle

A British Empire Medal in last month's birthday honours came as a surprise for carpenter and designer Ted Castle, 52. "For many years I felt that nobody was interested in what I do. People seem more interested if you are into electronics or computers."

Ted Castle, who has cp, has been making wooden furniture for disabled schoolchildren for twenty years, funded by the Inner London Education Authority (ILEA) until it was abolished in April this year.

His job was rescued by the London College of Furniture (LCF) in North London, where he is the Design for Disability Technical Officer.

But he says schools are feeling the financial pinch and are confused about funding since ILEA finished. Orders have dropped as a result.

He rejects the assumption that furniture for disabled people has to look clinical. "It takes less effort to make something look attractive than it does to make it look ugly," he says. His designs have reached America, Australia and Israel.

He only started to take formal design exams four years ago, and his qualifications now include an Open University degree and a City and Guilds certificate.

He has also invented his own qualification – a large elaborate chest inlaid with patterns of different kinds of wood, which he has worked on for the last two years. It is a throwback to the golden age of cabinet makers in the late eighteenth century when travelling craftsmen would show their toolboxes instead of employers' references.

"For years people said to me 'You're a spastic, you can't do this, you can't do that'," he says. "So I made a spastic's toolbox." He hopes to win a competition with it at London's Woodworker Show in October.

"He's very tenacious," said Brian Boothby, research director at the London College of Furniture. "If people are put off on the phone because of his speech impediment he'll ring them back time and time again."

"He's a craftsman really," said Merle Davies, community care advisor at The Spastics Society. "I don't often see furniture that looks so attractive."

Rebecca Reynolds

Ted Castle, London College of Furniture, 071-247 1953 ext 259.

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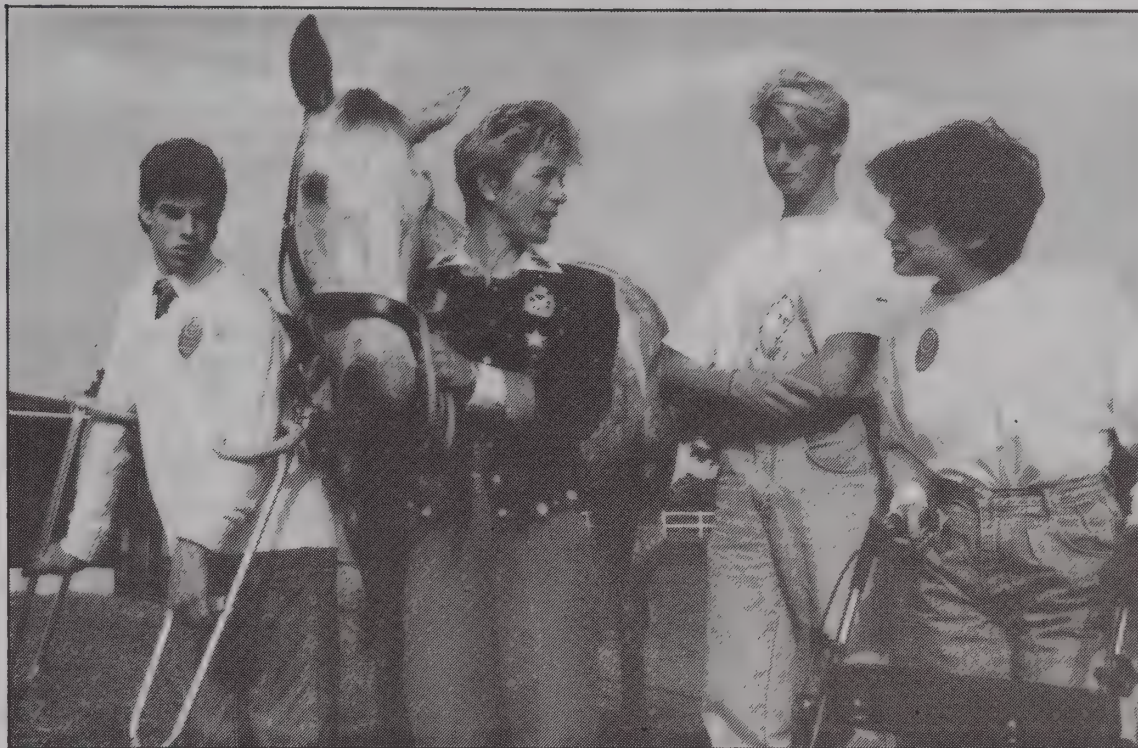
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DN8

Win a
£5 prize

Create-a-caption!

You can make a horse talk this month. Showjumper Ginny Leng is seen here chatting to Duke of Edinburgh award candidates. Concoct a witty caption, send it to us, address p24, by 9 August and you might get a fiver.



Younger and wiser

Reviewing products can seriously damage your bank balance. One should also think twice before making impulsive gestures that involve a lot of effort.

I bought an Explorer Car for work (22 miles round trip) and decided to drive it from Southampton to Maidstone, 116 miles, for Telethon.

At 6am we surprised a weary pair of security guards at the TVS studios. Photographs taken as proof of starting. I set off at 8mph, leaving the support crew to overtake and wait at set points – just in case.

About two miles out on the A33 (a road all sane Class III wheelchair users should avoid) I saw in my rear view mirror a large motorway maintenance lorry with amber lights flashing. Thinking he wanted to pass I kept my wheelchair well over.

But there he stayed, just a few feet behind me, for the next five miles. Cars thundered past. Eventually, when I drew level with a large lay-by he pulled out and roared off.

As he disappeared, my rear view mirror was filled with the image of a police car, blue light flashing. A tannoy told me to pull in.

The officer said the maintenance driver had been so worried for my safety that he had driven behind me as a buffer.

The policeman also wondered why I was driving on a main road. Conversation with his station sergeant was littered with "I've told him's" and "He's aware", until I realised he was unaware that my Class III wheelchair was "road legal".

While the matter was referred to the chief inspector I beat an 8mph retreat. The police officer took my mobile phone number and said if they reached a decision he'd call.

A hundred yards further on, the phone rang. I answered once I was off the main road. Kent police had been contacted by Hampshire police and were now checking to find out about my trip – even though I had received a confirming letter from their community policing section.

From then on the journey was uneventful save for the wonderful, helpful people I met, like the bus inspector at Borough Green who produced hot soup and staff toilets.

I took just over 16 hours, used 2 gallons of leadfree and raised £770. My "Pope mobile" came through with flying colours – so did the mobile phone.

Ian Younger contributes regularly to DN.

THE NEWS QUIZ

- Who was the top goal scorer in the World Cup?
- What date did East and West Germany finally get their cash together?
- Which supergroup is Rolling on the road again this year?
- Who changed his job title to show how much he cares about disabled people? (See DN July).
- Which team with naughty fans won praise for its good behaviour in the World Cup?
- Who is the diminutive movie star going back to the future for the third time?
- Which "fixer" got a Knighthood in June?
- Who brought the traffic to a

halt last month?

- Who got their ninth at Wimbledon?
- Which famous mum had a birthday last month?

Caption winner

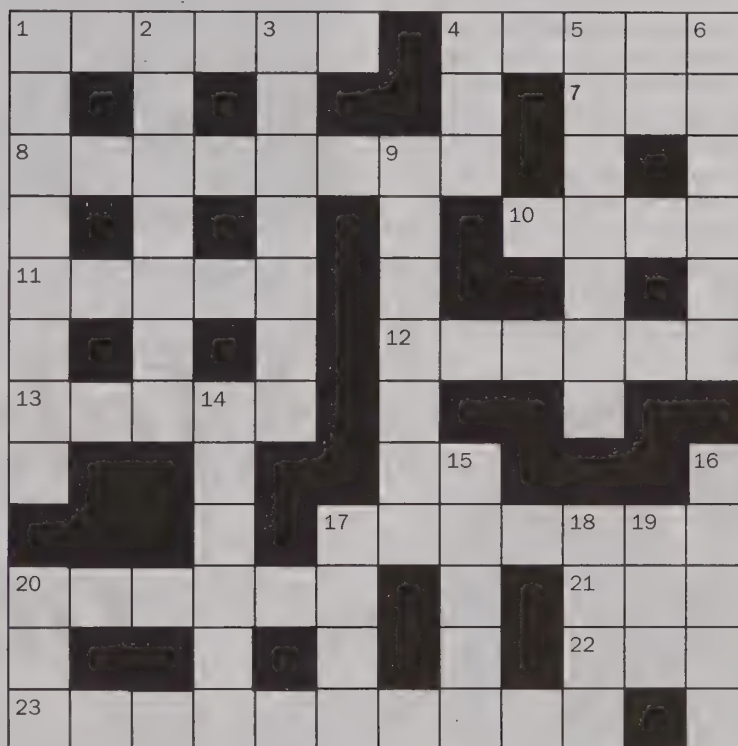
Thanks to all DN readers who entered our caption competition.

There were many helpful comments last month on ex-Chancellor of the Exchequer Nigel Lawson collecting for charity outside the Bank of England. The fiver prize goes to Mrs I Tasker of Bolton for: "Please give generously, I have a large mortgage, poll tax, a wife and two children to support."

DN's crossword

Answers p21

COMPILED BY REBECCA REYNOLDS



ACROSS

- Ask for – disability design charity (6)
- Quick (5)
- Used in caviar (3)
- Dad rants (anag)
- Garden conspiracy? (4)
- You may catch one in winter (5)
- Jump upon (6)
- Fits of anger (5)
- These say who the author is (7)
- Limped (anag)
- Unit of electricity (3)
- Herb (3)
- They won promotion at Swindon FC's expense (10)

DOWN

- Trust cad (anag)
- Wailing (7)
- Small round lumps (7)
- Naughty (3)
- Emerald Isle (7)
- Polly put it on (6)
- Lots of disabled people work here (7)
- Went to Greta Green? (6)
- Girl's name (5)
- Poplar tree (5)
- Comes in a tankard (4)
- Expensive perfume of antiquity (4)
- Large bird (3)
- Nicholas Scott's domain (3)

- Salvatore Schillaci of Italy, with 6 goals
- Monetary union between the two happened on 1 July
- The Rolling Stones
- Nicholas Scott, formerly "Minister for the disabled", now "Minister for disabled people"
- England
- The Queen Mother, who celebrated her 90th birthday the ninth time
- Martina Navratilova, women's singles champion for Accessible Transport
- The Campaign for Jimmy Saville
- The Future III
- Michael Fox, star of Back to

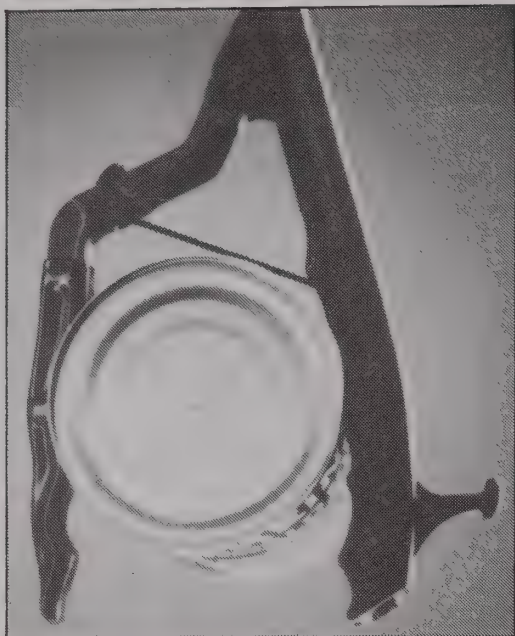
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Telephone: (0473) 226950



CHECKOUT

Inches can seem like miles if you have reaching difficulties.

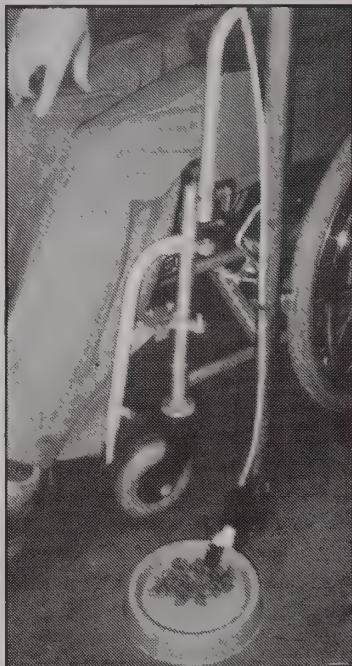
The **Helping Hand** (*top right*) has a handle which works like a trigger – one squeeze and the claws open to pick up objects. It also has a detachable cuff support to give you more control, and a moulded post on the end to remove hosiery and dressings. £9.99 (inc VAT and p&p). The Helping Hand Company, tel: (0531) 5676.

The **Stik-Pic** (*right*) can pick up your pet's plastic feeding bowl. It clips on to any walking stick, and picks up newspapers, mail and other small items. A magnet

moulded in the base will lift pins, nails and scissors. £11.50 (incl p&p) from Pro-Med, tel: (0202) 528732.

The **Leg Lifter** (*top left*) helps you lift stiff legs. It can be used in bed, in a wheelchair, with a footstool etc. £9.92 (incl p&p) if you are VAT exempt, or £11.41 (incl p&p) if you are not. Homecraft Supplies Limited, tel: 0623 757955.

Homecraft's long handled **dustpan and brush set** saves on bending. £5.05 (incl p&p and VAT). For serious dust collectors, their **Magic Broom** is a lightweight vacuum cleaner which can be hand held for cleaning curtains and sofas. It also comes with a removable handle so you can use it for carpets as well. £43.48 (incl p&p).



WHAT'S ON

Dry Ski Slope Open Day for disabled people. 5 August at the Hemel Hempstead Ski Centre. Warren or Louise Blyth, tel: (0494) 773080.

British Deaf Association Centenary Congress. 7 – 14 August. £75 for the week, £10 per day. Contact: Lilian Lawson, BDA, 38 Victoria Place, Carlisle CA1 1HU, tel: (0228) 48844.

Coda One Day Seminar for hearing adults with deaf parents. 12 August. Contact Catherine White, Employment Officer, The RNID, 105 Gower Street, London WC1E 6AH, tel: 071-387 8033.

AMARC 4 World Community Radio Conference at University College, Dublin. 12-18 August. More details from: AMARC, 7 Angelsea Street, Dublin 1, tel: 353-1-6799673.

World Lawn Bowls Championship for disabled people. 18-24 August at the Rowheath Centre Trust, Bowling Club, Heath Road, Bournville, Birmingham.

People First Conference for people with learning difficulties at St Mary's College, Twickenham, Middlesex. 19-24 August. More information from: Gary Bourlet, C/O People First Office, Oxford House, Derbyshire Street, London E2 6HG, tel: 071-739 3890.

The European Academy of Childhood Disability, a scientific multidisciplinary meeting. 2-4 September. £75 (£60 concessionary). Ms Olivia Plunkett, The Spastics Society, Wolfson Centre, Mecklenburgh Square, London WC1N 2AP, tel: 071-833 2017.

Information for Disabled People, the hospital's role. 14 September at The King's Fund Centre, London NW1. £40. More information from The National Information Forum, 380-384 Harrow Road, London W9 2HU, tel: 071-289 2791.

Castle Priory
Individual programme planning. £169. 12-14 September.
The hand as a guide to learning. £169. 14-16 September.
Personal relationships and sexuality. £189. 17-19 September.
Non residence charges available on application. Further information from Castle Priory College, Thames Street, Wallingford, Oxon OX10 0HE (enclose SAE), tel: (0491) 37551.

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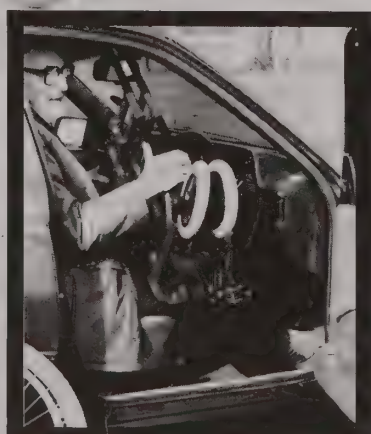
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 Wolverhampton WV13 3AX. Tel: 0902 866166

DNB

SDN



DN's look at **alternative therapies** in March prompted many of you to write in for more information. Below are some useful addresses. Please write directly to the organisation enclosing a stamped addressed envelope.

Society of Teachers of the Alexandra Technique
10 London House
266 Fulham Road
London SW10 9EL

The British Biomagnetics Association
The Williams Clinic
31 St Marychurch Road
Torquay, Devon TQ1 3SF

Association of Reflexologists
27 Old Gloucester Street
London WC1N 3XX

The Shiatsu Society Secretary
19 Langside Park
Kilbarchan
Renfrewshire PA10 2EP

MOVES

Jane Popplewell is the new Information and Appeals Co-ordinator at Winged Fellowship. Stanley Millar has been elected chairman and Stanley Gillespie vice-chairman of the Northern Ireland Council on Disability. Lambert Bignell is the new Educational Consultant at the National Autistic Society. Harry Taylor has been elected as the first president of the European Federation for Parents of Deaf Children.

HELP

What's New in Cerebral Palsy is the title of a one day conference to be held in November. If you or your child has cp and you have ideas for workshop themes or important issues that you feel should be covered contact K Ajimal at 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ, tel: 071-636 5020.

Equipment for disabled children in Romania will be given by a new charity, the London Schubert Players Trust, from

money raised by the orchestra during a tour of Romania in September. The Trust also wants to raise money before the tour so that equipment can be bought and transported with the orchestra. (Some places will be available on the coach at special rates for "friends" of the orchestra, coming for part or all of the tour.) Contact the Secretary, London Schubert Players Trust, 72 Warwick Gardens, London W14 8PP or tel: 071-603 1396.

The BBC are planning a new series of *Who Cares?* for spring '91, focusing on caring for elderly people. Anyone with any suggestions for the programmes or

ideas about future provision should contact *Who Cares?*, BBC Education, Villiers House, Ealing Broadway, London W5 2PA.

If you have visited an **English Heritage Site** recently and want to help with some research into

facilities for disabled people contact James Pardoe, Lecturer, Archaeology Unit, Dept of Tourism, Dorset Institute of Higher Education, Wallisdown Road, Wallisdown, Poole, Dorset BH12 5BB, tel: (0202) 595163.

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For further details and an application form please contact:
Mrs I Jackson, Head of Centre, St Ebba's Extended Education Centre, Mid Surrey Adult Education Institute, St Ebba's Hospital, Hook Road, Epsom, Surrey KT19 8QJ. Telephone: 0372 729148.
Closing Date: 3 August 1990, Interviews to be held on 16 August 1990.



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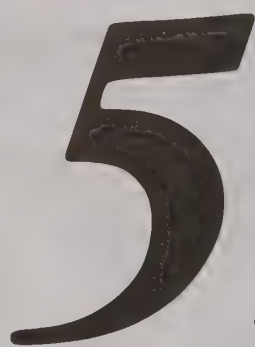
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DISTRICT PLANNING ADVISER

West Birmingham

* To plan and oversee all new developments in the district * To liaise with West Birmingham Health Authority and other agencies * To respond imaginatively to changes arising from the Community Care White Paper and Children Act.

Ref: 90/1200/2

Performance Review Section (3 Jobs)

Can you help managers review and develop services?

Can you work flexibly and under pressure?

Can you communicate effectively with a wide range of people, and represent and share ideas in a logical and ordered fashion?

If so, the Performance Review Section has three jobs which need your skills.

PERFORMANCE REVIEW ADVISER (City-wide brief)

Main responsibilities: * To develop, implement and monitor quality review systems * To progress the developments around management information * To assist in the provision and analysis of information for day to day and strategic decision making (an ability to use a personal computer for analysis would be advantageous).

Ref: 90/1201/2

CO-ORDINATION AND DEVELOPMENT OFFICER

(2 Jobs)

(City-wide brief)
(2 year appointment)

One job for Services for People with Disabilities - Physical and Sensory Disability and Learning Difficulties.

- Key focus - the Disabled Persons Act and the consequences of the Community Care White Paper.

One job for Services for Elderly People

- Key focus - the consequences of the Community Care White Paper and Birmingham's Agenda for Change for services for elderly people and their carers.

Main responsibilities * To initiate, develop and co-ordinate specific City wide initiatives * To contribute to determining policy and procedures and assist in ensuring their implementation * To facilitate meetings with service users, carers groups, other city departments, the health authorities and the independent sector.

We particularly welcome applications from minority ethnic people, women, and people with disabilities, as they are under represented at this level in the department.

Ref: 90/1202/2

Those interested in applying for more than one of these jobs will be encouraged to do so by indicating on the application form the jobs for which you feel particularly well suited.

To discuss the jobs informally contact Jon Bloomfield, Principal Officer, Planning on 021-235 3570 or Duncan Cadbury, Principal Officer, Performance Review 021-235 2707.

Information packs and application forms are obtainable by writing to the Personnel Manager, Level 5, Social Services Department, Louisa Ryland House, 44 Newhall Street, Birmingham B3 3PL or telephone the answering machine number 021-235 3549 (24 hour service).

Closing date for completed application forms Tuesday 14th August 1990. (we are expecting to interview shortlisted applicants in September to avoid the main holiday period).



Birmingham City Council

The City Council welcomes applications from all sections of the community, irrespective of race, colour, gender, sexuality or disability.

Job Sharers welcome, no partner necessary.

HOLIDAYS

Have you tried a **WINGED FELLOWSHIP** Holiday in Britain or Overseas? Great fun and full care provided. Write for free colour brochure. Winged Fellowship, Angel House, 20/32 Pentonville Road, London N1 9XD, tel: 071-833 2594.

SUNNY TENERIFE, Los Christianos. As featured on tv and radio, the beautiful "Mar y Sol" Health and Fitness Resort. Purpose-built, totally wheelchair-accessible. Swimming pools, saunas, gymnasium, physiotherapy. Apartments for rent or ownership. I can arrange your flights too! "Brilliant ... Amazing!" says BBC tv's The Travel Show. Come, see for yourself! Specially adapted taxi service from Tenerife airport. Video (£15 refundable deposit) brochure: Lynne James, 7 Overpool Road, Ellesmere Port L66 1JW, tel: 051-339 5316.

NORTH DEVON, self-catering cottages sleeping 4/6 (2 specially designed for wheelchairs) fully equipped and heated, linen provided. Peaceful country setting for touring Exmoor, Dartmoor

and Devon Coast. Brochure from South Coombe Farm, Witheridge, Tiverton, Devon EX16 8QL, tel: (0884) 860302.

MAR Y SOL, Los Christianos, Tenerife. Wheelchair accessible apartments and studios to rent or buy in luxury complex. Heated pool with hoist, restaurant, health treatments. Video available. Cheap flights, special summer offer - children under 12 accommodation free. Sue Abbott, 123 Coppermill Road, Wraysbury, Staines, Middlesex TW19 5NX, tel: (0753) 685718.

HAWKINS HEALTH CARE have vacancies for permanent and holiday care at Rosina Lodge in Shanklin, Isle of Wight. 9 places are available for young physically handicapped adults offering 24 hour care and transportation. Further details from Jenny Hawkins (0902) 756342.

Will access be easy? Are the rooms big enough? Is there a lift? For a trouble-free holiday with all the family try **ASHWELLTHORPE HALL HOTEL**, a discreetly adapted manor house set in acres of beautiful grounds. 22 bedrooms, centrally heated through-

out, licensed bars, free use of wheelchairs and other aids, mini-bus, half or full board. Tel: (050841) 324, or write: The Manager, Ashwellthorpe Hall Hotel, Ashwellthorpe, Norwich NR16 1EX.

KINGFISHER 1 is a traditional steel narrowboat with a difference. This boat is from stem to stern designed and built for wheelchair users. 60 feet long, sleeping 6/7 people with full central heating, tv and radio. Fitted with unique equipment including hydraulic lifts that can be operated from a wheelchair. Kingfisher 1 is based on the breathtaking and tranquil Shropshire Union Canal. If you are looking for that special holiday this year contact Dartline Cruisers, Canal Wharf, Bunbury, Tarporley, Cheshire, Tel: (0829) 260638.

THE GREATER MANCHESTER COALITION OF DISABLED PEOPLE

Require a **part time Development/Outreach Worker** for their project working with young disabled people in Manchester and Salford.

Salary £12,747 pa; 25 hours per week, £9105 pro rata.

You will need to have an active involvement in a disabled peoples' organisation; a commitment to the independence and integration of disabled people; communication and organisational skills; and a knowledge and awareness of the issues important to young disabled people.

Also needed: **Part Time Clerical Worker** Salary £8,367; 25 hours per week; £5976 pro rata

These posts are initially funded for 2 years. Further details and application form available from GMCDP, Unit 33, Caricoca Enterprise Park, 2 Hellidon Close, Ardwick, Manchester M12 4AH.

Only disabled people need apply. Closing date - 17/9/90. Interviews held in week ending 28/9/90.

If you would like **DN** on tape, or know anyone else who would, contact Gayle Mooney on 071-636 5020 ext 244.

CROSSWORD ANSWERS

ACROSS: 1. Demand 4. Brisk 7. Roe 8. Standard 10. Plot 11. Chill 12. Pounce 13. Rages 17. Bylines 20. Dimple 21. Amp 22. Rue 23. Sunderland

DOWN: 1. Dustcart 2. Moaning 3. Nodules 4. Bad 5. Ireland 6. Kettle 9. Remploi 14. Eloped 15. Flora 16. Aspen 17. Beer 18. Nard 19. Emu 20. DSS

SEND US YOUR SMALLS...

...and make a big impression. Small ads in **DN** reach over 80,000 people for just £3 a line (minimum £9). Please don't send money with your ad - we will invoice you after it goes in. For Find a Friend please send £3 cheque or postal order payable to **Disability Now** with your ad. Phone 071-636 5020 ext 245.

Shape London

ARTS DEVELOPMENT WORKER IN WANDSWORTH

£14,469 pro rata

SHAPE London, the arts development agency working with disabled people and other under-represented groups, is seeking a development worker to continue its work in the borough of Wandsworth, through establishing local projects and events. Knowledge of disability arts and culture essential. Three days a week. Fully accessible office.

SHAPE London is an Equal Opportunities Employer and particularly welcomes applications from disabled people.

CLOSING DATE for applications: 31st August.

INTERVIEWS: September 18th.

Details from **SHAPE London Recruitment**, 1 Thorpe Close, London W10 5XL.

PARKSIDE HEALTH AUTHORITY WHEELCHAIR SERVICE

WILLESDEN HOSPITAL, NW10

ADMINISTRATIVE COORDINATOR

GRADE 4: £9021 - £10772 inc.

As part of the development of services for disabled people Parkside Health Authority has created an exciting new post to provide comprehensive administrative support to the Brent Wheelchair Centre.

We are looking for an enthusiastic and well organised individual with some computing experience and excellent communication skills. A commitment to team working is essential as is a positive attitude to the promotion of Equal Opportunities.

The postholder will work within a supportive environment where every encouragement will be given to pursue opportunities for further relevant training and professional development.

Applications from disabled people are positively encouraged and all suitably qualified and/or experienced candidates with disabilities are guaranteed an interview. Job sharers welcome.

Application forms and further details from The Personnel Department, Wembley Hospital, Fairview Avenue, Wembley, Middlesex, HA0 4UH. Telephone: 081-903 1323 ext 3263.

Closing date: 10th August

WORKING TOWARDS EQUAL OPPORTUNITIES



Action on Disability

TRAINING & ENTERPRISE DIVISION

Your chance to play a leading role in creating job opportunities for disabled people of relevance to the 1990s.

OUTSET, a growing national charity, has an established reputation for its work in training and employment for disabled people in the field of information technology. **OUTSET** has recently reviewed its structures to adjust to the changing demands of disabled people and employers in the 1990s. The **TRAINING & ENTERPRISE DIVISION** has been created as part of a new system of corporate team management across the organisation. The Division brings together all training and enterprise centres under a unified management structure.

OUTSET is now seeking an experienced and highly motivated senior manager to provide leadership in the management and development of its TRAINING & ENTERPRISE DIVISION

TRAINING & ENTERPRISE DIRECTOR

SALARY £25,311-£26,346 (P.O.7 points 49-51)
(Inclusive of London Weighting)

The essential requirement is for a person capable of providing leadership and strategic management to a team of highly qualified and committed staff. Candidates should have a proven track record of senior management and be able to demonstrate a sound understanding of business planning.

T.E. Division's work is based on an understanding of information technology in the delivery of training or business services. Candidates should ideally have a professional background and experience in one or other of these related fields.

Knowledge and experience of financial management is required. Candidates should also be able to demonstrate a good understanding of the basic principles of marketing and promotion.

The person appointed will have good inter-personal and negotiating skills and generally be capable of leading and motivating staff with confidence and credibility.

Candidates for this post should have a commitment to equal opportunity policies. In particular personal experience of disability would be an advantage, but all candidates must demonstrate the capability of appreciating the needs of people with disabilities. OUTSET especially welcomes applications from disabled people as part of its policy of recruiting disabled people to senior management positions.

Please write or telephone for an application form and further details to:

Jean Wiltshire
OUTSET Ltd
Drake House, 18 Creekside
LONDON SE8 3DZ
(Tel: 081-692 7141)

For further information about the post, please telephone the Chief Executive, Alex Mackay.

Closing date for application: 4th September 1990
Interviews will be held on: 18th September 1990

OUTSET is an equal opportunities employer with fully accessible premises.

Before we
match you
to a job,
we consider
your
background.



BROOK STREET
THE BEST ROUTE TO WORK.

Contact Stella McOwen on (071) 323 3818 for more information
Brook Street is an equal opportunities employer.

**THE UNDERSTANDING
DISABILITIES EDUCATIONAL TRUST**
seeks a disabled person
as a full/part time
SECRETARIAL ASSISTANT
Keyboard skills. Access.
Transport required.

**UDET, Weydon School,
Weydon Lane, FARNHAM,
Surrey GU9 8UG.**
Tel: 0252 733167

FIND-A-FRIEND

DO YOU WANT to spend the rest of this
summer alone? Neither do I! Relaxed,
easy going guy, disabled but very active
and adventurous. I regularly travel to
London for concerts (rock to classical),
enjoy theatre, cinema, eating out, enter-
taining and travel. Is there a cheerful lady
with a good sense of humour 20/30's out
there? I work in Aylesbury and live near
Oxford/Reading. All replies answered.
Box No. 298.



WANDSWORTH DISABLEMENT ASSOCIATION PROJECT/DEVELOPMENT WORKER

Salary (Scale 6 Sp 26) £13,389 (Incl ILW) (under review)

WDA is an umbrella organisation representing the needs and interests of people
with disabilities in the borough of Wandsworth. We are looking for someone to promote
the involvement of women with disabilities, people from the ethnic minorities and other
minority groups in the development of the organisation - through the usership of our new
meeting room and project development in line with WDA policy.

Your primary task will be: ★ to co-ordinate the most effective and appropriate
use of the new meeting room in line with WDA's aims and objectives; ★ to organise and
facilitate meetings and activities in connection with WDA's work and disability issues.

WDA is committed to becoming an equal opportunities employer.
Closing date 31st August 1990.

For more information, application form, etc please contact:
**Wandsworth Disabling Association, 1c Yukon Road, Balham,
London SW12 9PZ. Tel: 081-675 6521.**

Job description, etc is available in large print and on tape. Premises are fully wheelchair
accessible. Women with disabilities especially welcome to apply.

FREE TRAINING FOR DISABLED PEOPLE IN COMPUTER PROGRAMMING ALL APPLICANTS FROM 'A' LEVEL TO DEGREE LEVEL CONSIDERED

Both Government and industry will sponsor your training on a 27 week
programme with a high guarantee of employment at the end of this
intellectually challenging course due to commence September/October
1990.

During training you will receive:

- Income Support
- Disabling Allowance
- An extra £10 pw
- All travel expenses up to £50 pw
- Child Care allowance for one parent families up to £50 pw child
- Paid accommodation should commuting prove problematic

All trainees will be selected through aptitude test, references and interviews,
to be held at Lewisham College, SE London.

For an information pack, please telephone:
PAM WICKHAM COMMUNICATIONS on 0883 652523.

ACCESS OFFICER Temporary, maternity cover SO1 £14,160 - £15,102 Ref A/288

You must be disabled, committed to ensuring the Council's policy on
ensuring good access and experienced in working (paid or unpaid) with
organisations controlled by disabled people.

You will be working with disability and community associations and within
the Council on a wide range of areas and you should actively support all
equal opportunity issues.

Application forms and further details from the City Architect's
Department, Town Hall, Manchester M60 2JT.
Tel: 061-234 4207. Please telephone between 9.30 am and 11.30 am
or 2 pm and 4 pm

Closing date 13th August 1990.

The City Council operates a Union Membership
Agreement under which a new employee is required to
become a member of a recognised trade union.

**MANCHESTER
City Council**

Defending Jobs - Improving Services

Manchester City Council is an Equal
Opportunity Employer, and we
positively welcome applications from
women and men, regardless of their
racial, ethnic or national origin,
disability, age up to 65, sexuality or
responsibilities for dependants

HANDSOME, HONEST MAN with
cp, 34, good career, own home, likes
countryside, sports, foreign travel (hates
discos, noise). Seeks friendship with sin-
cere bright lady (27-40) who enjoys the
good things in life. Surrey/Hants/Berks.
Box No. 300.

GENTLEMAN 25, outgoing and fun
loving, has cerebral palsy. Seeks able
bodied/disabled female for sincere rela-
tionship. Box No. 305.

YOUNG BLACK GENTLEMAN in a
wheelchair. Seeks caring able bodied
ladies for companionship, aged between
25-30. Interests included socialising and
holidays. Genuine replies only. Include a
recent photo. All letters answered. Box
No. 306.

CIVIL SERVANT 45 of short stature
wishes to correspond with a lady, 40-60
for friendship, maybe a relationship. I
have many interests. I would be pleased to
receive letters from ladies who live an in-
dependent life, with or without children.
Box No. 307.

For Find A Friend ads
please send a cheque or
postal order for £3 pay-
able to *Disability Now*
with your ad. This is to
help cover our costs.

LONELY WIDOWER 62 would like to
meet/correspond with a home loving lady
with varied interests. I live in Coventry/
Warwick area and would reply to all let-
ters. Box No. 308.

MAN 28 with cerebral palsy wants to find
a female friend aged 20-27. I own my own
house with my mum and have my own car.
I like listening to Elvis Presley records and
going to the cinema. Box No. 309.

YOUNG FEMALE 22 in a wheelchair -
muscular dystrophy. Out going, enjoys
socialising, meeting people. Seeks male/
female, able bodied/disabled friend to
write to/meet. Box No. 310.

MALE 30 with mild cerebral palsy. I live
on my own and am totally independent.
My main interest is playing golf. I am a car
owner. I consider myself a caring, honest,
and romantic person. I would like to meet
a lady 20-35 (who likes to be treated as a
lady) with a view to a long term rela-
tionship. 25 mile radius of Manchester.
All letters answered, photo if possible.
Box No. 311.

To reply to Find-a-Friend indicate the Box
Number and mark the envelope *Private &
Confidential*. If you do not it will be
opened. Send to DN, address on page 24.

Is the postcode on your DN label
wrong? Please help us to save
postage by returning your label
with the correct postcode.

A recognised project working with creative arts and people with learning difficulties,
requires an experienced **MUSIC WORKER**. Salary £11,300 pa for 35 hours
per week.

This exciting post will involve working in the community, schools and day centres,
establishing and building integrated performance and workshop based groups.

The ideal candidate will have a commitment to extending and developing
opportunities in the arts for people with a learning difficulty, be able to work closely
with volunteers and have an ability to train staff and other professionals.

Job description and application from:

**Carousel Project,
2 St George's Place,
Brighton BN1 6GB.
Tel: Brighton (0273) 570 840
Closing date: 17th August 1990**

Carousel



SOUTHAMPTON CENTRE for INDEPENDENT LIVING

require for their
BRIDGE Recruitment Agency

PROJECT MANAGER (Full Time) up to £16,500 p.a. and ASSISTANT PROJECT MANAGER (Part Time)

To set up and run The Bridge to recruit, train and place disabled people into
full and part time employment. The successful applicants will be disabled
people with recruitment, personnel and training experience.

Application details from: **The Bridge, 4 Canute Road,
Southampton SO1 1FH or Tel: 0703 774378. (Ansaphone)
Closing date: 6 August 1990.**

Equal Opportunities Employer.
Applications from disabled people particularly welcome.

Social Worker

**ASSESSMENT TEAM FOR YOUNG PEOPLE
WITH DISABILITIES**

£14,088 - £20,307 Inclusive

Responding to the Disabled Person's Act we've established a
multi-disciplinary team providing an integrated assessment service to
disabled young people leaving full time education. In keeping with the
spirit of the Act we are looking at people's rights of choice and
participation and consequently have targeted this post.

We are seeking someone who:-

- has a CQSW qualification
- is a disabled person
- has experience of disability issues

Information available, by request, on tape/braille.

For details telephone 081 862 6037 (24 hour answer service)
quoting Ref SS/27/26. Director of Social Services, Civic Centre,
Lampton Road, Hounslow TW3 4DN. Closing date 7 August 1990.

Job sharers welcome.

Hounslow
An Equal Opportunity Employer

Rainer

INTERVAL PROJECT

Housing Worker initially on a one year contract.
Future funding is being sought.

Salary £13,176 + I.L.W. £1,722

The Interval Project is part of the Rainer Foundation, an established national
charity working with young people. It is based in Southwark and provides
semi-supportive accommodation and planned resettlement for young
homeless people 16-21 years old. Interval also aims to facilitate the residents
involvement in education, training and employment. The project is managed
collectively within a hierarchical organisation by two full time and two part time
workers. The project currently manages 17 bedspaces. A new six bed house,
which includes one unit for a young person with a disability, is due to open
shortly.

Applicants should have at least one year's experience of managing shared
housing together with experience of resettlement work and of carrying out
face to face work with people from the Asian and/or African/Caribbean
communities. In addition s/he should have good organisational ability, the
ability to work as part of a non-hierarchical team, and an understanding of the
issues affecting young homeless people and people with disabilities.
Commitment to equal opportunities and to challenging racism, sexism and
heterosexism is also essential.

A high proportion of the project's users are of African/Caribbean descent and
we, therefore, particularly welcome applications from African Caribbean
people. Male workers are under-represented in the staff team and are,
therefore encouraged to apply.

For further information, an application form and informal enquiries,
please contact:- **The Interval Project, Parkstone House, 163 Rye Lane,
Peckham, London SE15 4TL.**

For informal enquiries please contact: **Interval Project on 071-635 0707.
Closing Date for applications 13th August 1990.**

People with disabilities are welcome to apply although unfortunately there is
no wheelchair access at present; however, we are currently seeking
alternative office space.

Section 38 of the Race Relations Act applies for this post.
Section 48 of the Sex Discrimination Act applies for this post.

We are committed to a policy of equal opportunity of employment and are developing practices to
ensure its effectiveness. This policy aims to ensure that no employee or job applicant receives less
favourable treatment because of race, ethnic or national origins, sex, marital status, family
responsibility, disability, sexuality, class, age, religion or by reason of being an ex-offender.

DESIGNER/PRODUCTION ASSISTANT

Salary £15,882 to £16,824 Inclusive of London Weighting

The Association of Metropolitan Authorities
is an organisation that represents the
interests of Metropolitan Authorities in
England.

The Publications Section has a production
list that takes in everything from regular
monthly journals, briefing papers and major
reports to leaflets, brochures and
conference backdrops.

A temporary Design/Production Assistant
for a period of ten months is required to
assist us in print production, design work
and general press and public relations
duties.

Experience in Desk Top Publishing, print
production and design work is essential. As
is a knowledge of current affairs as they
affect local government and an
understanding of equal opportunities. Your
organisational and liaison skills are
important, as you will deal with a wide
variety of people. Experience of working on
a magazine would be an advantage.
Black and ethnic minority people and those
with disabilities are under represented at
this level and we welcome applicants from
these groups. People with registered
disabilities who meet the job specification
will be guaranteed an interview. The
building is accessible to people with
disabilities.

For further details, please write or phone
for an application form to The Secretary,
AMA, 35 Great Smith Street, London
SW1P 3BJ. Telephone No: 071 222 8100.
Closing date for the post is Friday 17th
August 1990.



Association of Metropolitan Authorities

Education Department

DISABILITY OFFICER

£16,926 - £18,183 p.a. inc.

To advise on the educational needs and aspirations of people with disabilities and formulate policies to address the needs identified. The post will be responsible for enhancing the effectiveness of communication with people with disabilities within the local community and co-ordinating the approach of the Department on disability matters. This will include providing advice on the placement of children in schools and opportunities for integration. This post is reserved for a person with disabilities.

Closing date: 6.8.90.

Ref: G703/DN

► Application forms and further details from Education Personnel Unit, Municipal Offices, High Road, Leyton, London E10 5QJ. Tel: 081-527 5544 ext. 5351. (9 am - 5 pm answerphone).

This post is available for Job Share

Waltham Forest is a multi-racial area and we are anxious to ensure that this is reflected in our workforce. All applications for jobs are considered on merit with equal opportunities for women, black and ethnic minorities, lesbians and gay men and people with disabilities.



OPPORTUNITIES IN HARLOW

Do you want to work for a progressive local authority situated in a pleasant town in the Essex countryside, which is accessible to London, M11, M25 and Stanstead Airport, with plenty of developments in business, recreation and leisure provision.

Harlow Council is committed to a policy of equal opportunities and we particularly encourage applications from black and ethnic minority, disabled and gay and lesbian people.

We can offer an attractive relocation package and other benefits associated with a good employer. The services which Harlow Council is providing are constantly changing and expanding to meet customer need, and include the management and maintenance of a large Housing stock and the building of new homes. We have many vacancies and whatever your skills, training, or experience, we may have a suitable job for you.

For our job listing "Current Vacancies", please ring 0279 446017.



TO ADVERTISE YOUR VACANCIES/COURSES

Please contact the Advertisement Manager, Jonathan Wine, Kingslea Press Limited, 12 Dock Offices, Surrey Quays Road, London SE16 2XU Telephone: 071-252 1362 Fax: 071-237 8019

Deadlines for September issue: booking by 17 August, camera ready artwork/ copy by 21 August.

Did you know that DN is a non-profit making newspaper and welcomes donations?

SITUATIONS VACANT

FEMALE AGED 18-35 needed to provide personal support for disabled person living and working independently in Sheffield. Hours negotiable. Not living in. For more information. Tel: (0742) 661949.

TOWER HAMLETS Health Authority and Tower Hamlets Borough Council are seeking to appoint a person or group of persons on a consultancy basis (approx 50 days in total) to compile a directory of services and resources for people with learning difficulties and their carers. For details of the job specification contact: Hazel Fisher, 53 Philpot Street, London E1 1BB. Tel: 071-377 7132. Final date for applications to be submitted 31 August 1990.

EMPLOYMENT

JOBABILITY helps people with ANY kind of disability in Haringey. We offer support, info., advice and counselling towards open employment. Tel: 081-808 4964 / 081-801 5118.

WANTED

CONCEPT KEYBOARD for computer. Tel: Ormskirk (0695) 575344.

CAR CHAIR powered wheelchair system any condition considered please tel: (0243) 377106 (Emsworth).

SECOND HAND VEHICLE to carry wheelchair passenger willing to pay about £1,000. Tel: 081-529 3149.

CHILDS ELECTRIC WHEEL-CHAIR or turbo for 5 year old. Tel: (0343) 88280.

C · A · M · D · E · N

LAW & ADMINISTRATION

Camden Disabilities Resource Unit

PART-TIME ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

Scale 5 £12,963 - £14,067 pro rata
(17 1/2 hours per week)

To be responsible for the day to day administration of a small but busy Council wide policy resource unit.

Applicants should have:

- A good knowledge of disability issues and a commitment to working within a strong equal opportunities environment.
- The ability to type with reasonable speed and accuracy.
- An understanding of basic book keeping and invoicing.

Disabled persons are particularly encouraged to apply for this post. Taped applications are also welcomed.

Application form from and to be returned to: Law & Administration Departmental Personnel Unit, Room 220, Town Hall, Euston Road, London NW1 2RU. Tel: 071-860 5653 (ansaphone), quoting Ref: 1/11/V. Closing date for all applications: Friday, 24th August 1990.

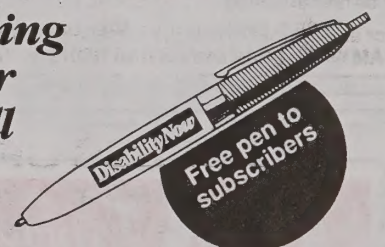


equal opportunity employer

Applicants are considered on the basis of their suitability for the post, with equal opportunities for women, black/ethnic minorities, lesbians and gay men and people with disabilities, and regardless of marital status, age, creed/religion and unrelated criminal conviction. All posts are open for job-sharing.

Disability Now

The campaigning
newspaper for
people with all
kinds of
disabilities



Please SUPPORT DN by SUBSCRIBING NOW

DISABILITY NOW ANNUAL SUBSCRIPTION

Please return this form to Disability Now, 12 Park Crescent, London W1N 4EQ with your remittance made payable to THE SPASTICS SOCIETY

Name _____ (BLOCK LETTERS PLEASE)

Address _____

POSTCODE _____ IMPORTANT!

Disability and/or profession _____

Please tick

- ☐ Individual at home address £6
- ☐ Organisations/authorities etc £10
- ☐ Overseas £10 Sterling
- ☐ Disabled people on low income, free
- ☐ Multiples ___ copies £ _____

Multiple copies annually: 10-50 copies a month, £75; 51-100 copies, £100

- ☐ Official VAT Invoice needed
- ☐ Bankers Order form needed

I/We enclose ☐ Cheque/P.O.

☐ A donation towards costs £ _____

I authorise you to charge my ☐ VISA ☐ ACCESS

Account No. _____

Expiry Date _____ Signature _____

Please give name and address on ACCESS/VISA if different from above

Disability Now is a non-profit publication. Receipts on request. Sorry, no refunds.

THE NATIONAL COLLEGE

COURSES:

A full range of courses for students with physical and sensory disabilities, residential and day. CPVE, GCSE, BTEC (First Level and National), A level, RSA, City and Guilds, LCC, Pitmans; access courses (pre-degree) in Art, Engineering Studies, Business Studies, Social Sciences. Course can be broadened with subjects taught at Tile Hill College of Further Education.

ACADEMIC FACILITIES:

A wide range of computer and Information Technology facilities in the Supported Self Study Centre (including all-day tutor support).

Three networked Computer Suites to support all courses. Art, Photography and Science Suites.

Extensive video production and editing facilities based in the fully equipped Theatre.

Individual study support with a professional team of assistants.

NATIONAL ACCESS CENTRE:

The National Co-ordinating centre for the National Federation of ACCESS Centres (NFAC): assessment and support

The National College for Students
with Physical and Sensory Disabilities

facilities provide access to education, training and employment. Consultants to the Open University. Many years' experience in the assessment of the micro technology and study needs of students with disabilities. Industrial and Commercial In-Service Training.

GENERAL FACILITIES:

120 study-bedrooms, 24 hour care and nursing support, independence, personal and social education. Integration of disabled and able bodied, residential and day students. Swimming, physiotherapy, speech therapy, careers and higher education counselling.

Resident and non resident conference facilities.

RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT:

Nuffield Interactive Book project: Disabled Graduates Careers Information Service; Empathy Ltd (the college charitable company); Empathy Enterprise Park Development; full involvement in Coventry and Warwickshire Training Enterprise Council (TEC); full involvement in Coventry Chambers of Commerce; LCCI Business Administration Course I/II (NVQ) to begin; Student Outreach Service; Kurator supported work placements.

Hereward COLLEGE

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Naidex free-for-all

Naidex Conventions is to run a free bus service between Euston station and Alexandra Palace for disabled visitors, thanks to the determination of *DN* reader Nora Tunney.

During the three days of Naidex '90, 17-19 October, a bus will leave Euston on the hour from 9am to noon, and return in the afternoon, leaving Alexandra Palace on the hour, from 2pm to 5pm.

Details of the service will be on the back of the admission ticket.

It all started when Nora Tunney SRN, who now uses an Amigo 3-wheeler, wrote to *DN* in May complaining of the poor access to Naidex '89.

"On arrival at Alexandra Palace station, no ramps. So we

had to be lifted up lots of steps (undignified and not fair on volunteers.)

"Then the bus provided by Naidex organisers was not accessible so stranger volunteers had to push wheelchairs or assist us up the hill to the exhibition."

Later, she and a friend were left stranded at the exhibition and only got home late in the evening after a private ambulance had been called.

DN passed the letter on to Naidex Conventions, but meanwhile Ms Tunney went herself to the Naidex offices at Tunbridge Wells, Kent, to make her point.

Directors Roger Marriott and Michael Clemson took the complaint seriously and this is the result.

Community living video

Seven hundred people in 39 Spastics Society residential homes will be introduced to living in the community over the next few months by a new video and by meeting people who have already moved out.

The video, based on the experiences of disabled people in the pilot First Key project in Worcestershire, shows what they do and what they think of living in the community.

"Other projects like this have happened, but ours is much more to do with focussing on what peo-

ple's hopes and fears are and making sure they have got the facts at their disposal," said Peter Clarke, the Society's community care advisor.

Three-day workshops in the Society's centres over the next few months will let residents talk to ex-residents and staff without managers being present.

The Society hopes to replace its large residential centres with group and individual housing in the community within the next four years. This will cost at least £30 million.



Conservative MP Norman Tebbit with Kelly Jackson, 6, at a fundraising party thrown by the Nuffield Orthotics Department in Oxford. The department, which provides support equipment, wants to raise £1 million to expand its facilities.

Scots denied fair deal

Scots with dementia are not getting a "fair deal" from support services and the situation will get worse under the new community care schemes.

This was the message delivered by Scottish Action on Dementia at their conference in June.

Dr Alan Jacques, vice-chairman of SCAD, said: "In Scotland today 80,000 people are living in the community with little support from services and we know that the numbers will

increase by over 20 per cent in the next 15 years."

The Government had identified dementia as top priority for health and social services for the 1990s, but existing services are already being cut or new plans shelved, added Dr Jacques.

He mentioned the closure of Longmore Hospital in Lothian with the loss of 100 geriatric beds, and the cancellation of an incontinence service in Fife.

Cost of living ousts extra care

Most severely disabled people who get attendance allowance are too worried about meeting the cost of basic necessities to use it to pay for care.

But the benefit is supposed to meet the extra costs of disability, including domestic assistance.

This was the main finding of a new study by the Policy Studies Institute (PSI), published in July.

Attendance allowance is paid to people who cannot be left on their own.

The rate is £25.05 a week (for day or night care), or £37.55 (for day and night care). The PSI say over 700,000 disabled people get it.

Since the introduction of the allowance in 1971 it has never been clear what it is for. A common assumption, says the PSI, is that it goes towards the cost of care or helps with a disabled person's extra expenses.

Yet less than a third of those who get attendance allowance use it to pay for care, it said.

Support at home can have an important influence on the quality of life for disabled people and their relatives, says the report.

"It would cost a lot for paid carers to take over from relatives completely. Most families would welcome some help. But most people with disabilities cannot afford private care. The key question, as always, is about resources."

The Attendance Allowance and the Costs of Caring, £5.95, Policy Studies Institute, 100 Village Park East, London NW1 3SR. Tel: 071-387 2171.

DN finger on the pulse of disability

DN is Britain's leading disability newspaper. Every month we pack each issue with the news, features, jobs and information that matter to disabled people, parents and professionals. Covering everything from benefits to boating holidays, *DN* is the paper for an estimated 80,000 readers. Here are some of the recent comments:

"We at Lake View have had a great response from all over the country to the article in your paper."

Brian Haines, Lake View, Oldham, Lancs

"By far the best disability magazine I have read in many a long year."

Mrs Anne McKenzie, Kings Heath, Birmingham.

"I would like to congratulate everyone at *DN* for helping myself and many others keep up to date with what is happening in the big wide world that we can't always get into."

Mr D M Allcock, Crewe, Cheshire.

"It has proved very popular in our school library with our physically handicapped pupils and staff."

Penny Manuel, Ormesby Secondary School, Middlesbrough, Cleveland

If you would like to join the people who read *Disability Now* or receive it on tape, please contact Gayle Mooney, tel: 071 636 5020 ext 244 for subscription details or fill in the coupon on page 23.

Disability Now

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